

The NATIONAL WOOL GROWER



Volume XXIII Number 4

APRIL, 1933

The Farm Relief Bill



The Wool Situation

By Dean J. A. Hill



Coyotes and Coyote Rifles

By Allyn H. Tedmon

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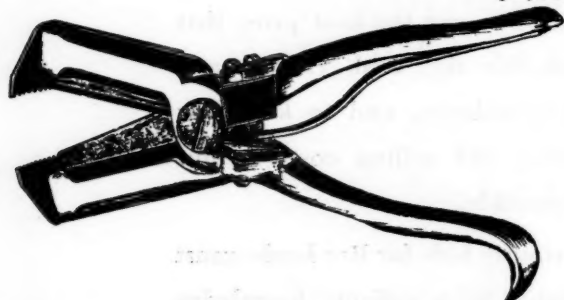
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Editorial Comment on Sheep and Wool Affairs

Five weeks of striking activity on the part of the new administration have been a great aid to restoring public confidence in future business and in our national financial system. Developments of the first two months of this year seemed to confirm the views of many who had insisted that the depression

**Active
Government**

must run its full course before real recovery could begin. The banking situation had reached its lowest limits and President Roosevelt took full advantage of the situation to see that depositors in unsound banks should have fullest protection and that only such banks as merited confidence should be reopened.

The power which Congress granted the President to reduce government expenditure has been courageously used.

It will require some time to show whether the confidence arising from budget adjustments and banking reorganization will be sufficient to turn the business tide. A beginning of direct action to raise commodity prices is provided in the Farm Relief Bill which seems likely to become law by the middle of the month. The possibilities and experimental phases of this measure are discussed in a separate article in this issue.

It cannot be by accident alone that British and Canadian banks have weathered the last five years without a single closing or failure. Those countries have a

**Our
Bankers**

few powerful systems of banks with no legal limitation as to operations of branches, all under national supervision. It must be admitted that the American plan of having two kinds of banks and bank control, national and state, prevents solidarity and probably also security.

Our fear of "too much government," and "socialistic tendencies" causes us to hesitate about eliminating state banks or giving the federal government further control over any of our essential institutions. Perhaps though, some control and direction exercised higher up would make it unnecessary to call in the powers of all the people, the government, in the affairs of particular industries, or in so many of the "unusual conditions," prevalent in recent years.

Today, through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the government is making the biggest part of what loans are being made. And the funds it loans are the deposits of the public which bankers feel safe in loaning to the Treasury while holding back ordinary commercial loaning.

It will take a long time for the government to get out of the kind and extent of banking business in which it now is engaged. And before local business loans are generally made from local deposits, material changes will have been made in banking laws and administration.

The President has announced his intention to ask Congress to give him power to change tariff rates in making trade agreements with foreign countries. Negotiations are to be conducted separately

**Trade
Treaties**

with the various nations with a view to increasing the outlet for exports of American agricultural and industrial products. Debts, exchange, monetary bases, and production plans are announced as subjects of the negotiations along with "removal of trade barriers" by reduction of import duties.

There is a strong feeling against lowering the protection on agricultural products as provided in the present law. But the President would be free to take that action and without advising Congress or receiving its approval.

Argentine is one of the countries that has been invited to send representatives to work out a trade agreement with the United States. A few years ago that country's ambassador at Washington resigned as a protest against the refusal to admit Argentine meat and wool into American markets.

Some American manufacturing interests have exerted strongest pressure upon the State Department to open our markets to Argentine meat and wool as that country refused to receive our automobiles, machinery, and other manufactures, except in exchange for her agricultural exports.

South American, high quarter blood wool is now selling in Boston at 15 cents per clean pound, before payment of duty. The same domestic grade is quoted at 36 cents (clean). The gap between present Argentine and American meat prices is still wider than in the case of wool. There is a similar condition in respect to New Zealand and Australia.

Even the present situation does not render it fair or wise to give full freedom in adjustment of import duties without hearings for domestic producers or consultation with the public's representatives in the Congress.

The National Wool Growers Association is asking that nothing be done that will preclude consideration by Congress of any reductions in existing tariff rates on wool and meats.

The Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916 was the beginning of government participation in financing agriculture along sound and necessary lines not furnished by regular banking. In 1923 Intermediate Credit Banks were added for the same reason. Ninety-day paper was not adapted to financing crop and livestock production. In 1929 came the Farm Board to finance cooperative marketing. Now, these agencies and others are being consolidated. Whether the new Farm Credit Administration shall always be the principal agency for financing agriculture, cannot be known now. The plans for handling land mortgages are not of a kind to exclude insurance or investment companies from doing that kind of business under normal conditions. The Farm Credit Administration is well calculated to keep agriculture alive through the depression. Its subsequent scope and service will be worked without undue hindrance to private capital that seeks employment in agriculture under satisfactory rates and terms.

Students of wool marketing have, for many years, said that the ideal plan for growers would be to consign clips without asking any advance. It was good

theory that the wool salesman or speculator should not be employed as a banker, that needed cash should be obtained from the same source that provided the funds to use in growing the wool. But creditors of most wool growers demanded loan payments at shearing time, either from sales or through consignment advances.

Consigning Wool

Strangely enough, in this year of extreme financial stress, the old theory is being put into practice. The Intermediate Credit Banks and the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations are carrying most of the sheep loans. These concerns do not handle deposits. They do not engage in commercial financing of other industry, or of distribution of merchandise. They are allowing their borrowers full freedom to decide whether to sell or to consign, but in case of consignment no advance is to be taken from the cooperative or other selling agencies.

These creditors continue to have first claim on the shorn wool just as they had on the sheep carrying the fleece. Their security is not endangered. The grower-borrower is not hampered. The salesmen are free to be just that—sellers of wool, and not bankers.

A good theory is pretty sure to come into practice, sooner or later.

The Farm Relief Bill

THE Farm Relief Bill (H. R. 3835), after passage by the House of Representatives on the day of its introduction, was considered for some time by the Senate Agricultural Committee and placed on the calendar of that House on April 6. Its passage during the week beginning April 10 is expected.

The provisions of the bill reported by the Senate Committee are not greatly different from those contained in the original draft submitted by the administration to the House of Representatives. The two important changes are the removal by the Senate Committee of sheep and cattle from the provisions of the measure and the addition of cost of production as the basis for establishing prices, this plan to be employed at the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture instead of the original plan of establishing prices on a parity with the prewar pur-

chasing power of the various commodities to be controlled.

The principal plan and purpose of the bill is to establish prices on various agricultural commodities which will secure for the producers the same purchasing power that prevailed in the period of August, 1909 to July, 1914. The Secretary of Agriculture would be empowered to make all necessary arrangements and regulations to determine the unit price of commodities at present, to collect the necessary funds from the processors, to adjust production plans, and to get the amount of the funds collected into the hands of the producers.

No such broad powers for any government official were ever before attempted. It was frankly recognized by the President that the whole plan was an experiment. Critics of the plan should know that under the provisions of the bill, the

Secretary is not compelled to establish price control on any commodity, or to continue price control if it should develop that the proper results are not being secured. The matter is purely experimental and can be altered and discontinued at will.

As before the Senate, the bill specifically provides for price control operations in respect to wheat, cotton, hogs, milk and its products, rice, tobacco, and flax.

Western senators of both parties registered a strong protest against the inclusion of beef cattle and sheep in the terms of the bill. It was shown that the parity with 1909-14 prices would result in material additional returns to producers of wheat, cotton, and hogs, yet the price advances for cattle and sheep would be very low. There is also the additional danger that any prescribed minimum price would have

the effect of pegging the market at that figure, as was the case with wheat during the war period. For hog producers, the pegging of the market at a price of 8 cents per pound, live weight, would not be so serious, but it would be serious for other stockmen if beef cattle should not go above $5\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound, or lambs above $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound.

It was also objected that while production control can be arranged for crops, it cannot so equitably be arranged for livestock. This is particularly true in the case of range producers whose entire equipments are devoted solely to livestock production and who could not possibly utilize any of their lands for any other purpose.

Extended debate in the Senate is probable and material changes may be made in the provisions for the enforcement of the bill as well as concerning the commodities to be covered.

The National Wool Growers Association advised the Senate Agricultural Committee that the application of the 1909-14 prices to lambs would not be beneficial. It is still uncertain as to whether the provisions of the bill will permit control of wool prices, or whether the Secretary of Agriculture would exercise his power in regard to wool, if such power is granted by the terms of the measure when it becomes law. The present low market is approximately 8 cents below the parity price as it would be calculated by the Agricultural Department.

The Secretary of Agriculture has advised the National Wool Growers Association that it is yet impossible to say what restrictions would be applied to production in case the plan is made operative for wool. It is also uncertain as to what part of the tax collected would be returned to producers after payment of the necessary expense of administration.

Governor Morgenthau Favors Orderly Wool Marketing

THE printing of this issue of the Wool Grower has been delayed in order to include the following statement issued on April 13, by Mr. Henry Morgenthau, Jr., chairman of the Federal Farm Board and named by President Roosevelt as head of the new Farm Credit Administration:

The plan will apply directly to marketing practices for that portion of this year's wool clip which is a part of the security for loans made to growers by the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Inasmuch as the responsibility for the administration of these loans will soon devolve upon Mr. Morgenthau as governor of the Farm Credit Administration, the directors of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation have decided to confer authority on Mr. Morgenthau immediately with respect to sales policies affecting wool and mohair.

Mr. Morgenthau's plan includes the creation of an advisory wool marketing committee made up of representatives of the growers, the wool marketing cooperatives, the Farm Credit Administration, and the wool trade. H. B. Embach of Arizona, general manager of the National Wool Marketing Corporation, whose membership consists of twenty-eight growers' cooperative marketing associations representing all wool producing sections of the country, is to be chairman of the committee. Other members will be F. R. Marshall, secretary of the National Wool Growers Association, Robert L. Turnbull, president of the Boston Wool Trade Association, and a representative of the Farm Credit Administration to be selected later.

The marketing plan approved by Mr. Morgenthau was devised by H. E. Babcock, sales advisor to the Farm Board, in consultation with representatives of the cooperative marketing organization and the wool trade. It involves cooperation of responsible houses in the wool trade with growers' marketing associations and the Farm Credit Administration for the orderly marketing of the wool clip in response to consumptive demand without forced sales and without any attempt to withhold wool and mohair from the market. Under instruction to the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations which have made loans on partial security of the wool and mohair clip, these Regional Corporations will approve shipment of wool and mohair on consignment to financially sound and reputable agents in the wool trade, including the National Wool Marketing Corporation and other established marketing cooperatives, the particular agent in each case to be selected by the grower whose wool or mohair is pledged.

The wool and mohair will be offered for sale by the trade on conditions agreed to by the wool advisory committee. These will include a revised schedule of handling charges which will show a saving to the grower and the further assurance that all wool and mohair is to be ratably and equitably offered and sold along with other wool and mohair in the hands of the trade.

"There are several points about this plan that I wish to emphasize," said Mr. Morgenthau. "Primarily it is designed to return the best possible price to the grower by marketing his product in an orderly way with due and practical regard to the prevailing conditions within the entire industry. We propose to retain the natural marketing procedure instead of attempting to enforce any artificial scheme. The grower is to designate the house to which he prefers to consign his wool. His identity as an individual factor in the industry is thus recognized. The selling will be subject to such regulation as should assure the industry of a much firmer foundation than might otherwise exist. While the plan does not deal with other wools and mohair than those pledged for Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation loans, nevertheless full cooperation between the growers and the trade in marketing this portion of the wool clip will, I think, establish practices that should benefit not only the grower but every factor in American wool production, manufacturing, and distribution."

Farm Credit Administration

THE consolidation of all federal agricultural credit agencies was provided for in an order issued by President Roosevelt on March 27.

One of the final acts of the old Congress provided Presidential authority for necessary consolidation or reorganization of governmental agencies. The plan of consolidating the agricultural credit agencies is the first one submitted by the new administration. Under the terms of the act giving the authority, this plan can be rejected by vote against it by both houses of Congress within 60 days after its submission. It seems altogether improbable that any such action will be taken, and if not, the plan will be effective on May 27.

Early in March the Senate confirmed the President's recommendation for the appointment of Mr. Henry Morgenthau, Jr., of New York, as chairman of the Federal Farm Board. Most of the old Farm Board members have resigned or soon will do so. The President's plan and order abolishes all offices in the Federal Farm Board except that of the present chairman. Similar action applies to the present Federal Farm Loan Bureau, the office of Federal Farm Loan Commissioner, now held by Mr. Paul Bestor, being the only one carried into the net set-up. This means that all the former functions of the Federal Land Board in connection with Federal Land Banks and Intermediate Credit Banks will be transferred to the new arrangement, which is to be known as the Farm Credit Administration and will be under the direction of Mr. Morgenthau, who will officially be designated as governor.

Then, there is also transferred to the new Farm Credit Administration the "functions of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and its board of directors relating to the appointment of officers and agents to manage Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations" * * * * and "to the approval of loans and advances made

by such corporations and of the terms and conditions thereof."

The new credit administration will also handle all seed and crop production loans, previously directed by the representatives of the Department of Agriculture.

It is not probable that the new arrangement will materially change the operation of these agencies as they are now being conducted throughout the country. The smaller number of administrative officers should insure speedier action and much more economical administration.

It is the policy of the new Farm Credit Administration and Governor Morgenthau to continue the financial support of sound cooperative marketing organizations. However, Governor Morgenthau has announced his intention of requiring the cooperative marketing associations affiliated with the Farm Credit Administration to adopt more active selling policies. He has selected H. E. Babcock, a farmer of Ithaca, New York, as his assistant in establishing sound sales policies for cooperatives.

Fifteen major cooperative marketing associations are still in debt to the Federal Farm Board to the amount of 157 million dollars, which was obtained for advancing on commodities or for association expenses. Of this amount cotton accounts for 85 million dollars, wheat 17 million, wool 19 million, and grape and dairy products each 11 millions. These figures are separate from the amounts involved in wheat and cotton stabilization operations.

The present problem, as stated by Governor Morgenthau, is "to move into consumption commodities owned by these cooperatives in such a manner as to enable the government to recover as much as possible of its loans without unduly disturbing the market."

The amount of wool loans owing to the Federal Farm Board as noted above represents the total indebted-

ness of the National Wool Marketing Corporation at the close of the receiving of 1932 wools. The Corporation has already adopted an active selling campaign and is now carrying less than 15 per cent of its last year's receipts.

The Grazing Fees

THERE has been no official action upon forest grazing fees since Secretary Wallace announced that permittees should pay by check or notes the first half of 1933 fees, that the whole question would be investigated before the balance becomes due.

The Secretary is known to be very sympathetic to the idea of flexibility in the scale of fees and for consideration of variations in livestock prices.

At the request of the Forest Service, the National Wool Growers Association and other organizations are submitting proposals as to equitable methods of securing closer relationship between grazing fees and prices of livestock.

Farm Mortgage Bill

THE Emergency Farm Mortgage Act (Senate Bill 1110), now before Congress, provides:

Issuing of two billion dollars of Federal Land Bank bonds to be used for new mortgages or refinancing old mortgages, interest guaranteed by the government

Interest rate to old and new borrowers of 4½ per cent

Five-year moratorium on principal payments

Maximum limit on loans \$50,000 instead of \$25,000

Joint Stock Land Banks to borrow \$100,000,000 from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, to reduce borrowers' interest to 5 per cent, with no foreclosures for two years, and with final liquidation of these banks.

Montana Business Men Ask Grazing Fee Adjustment

THE directors of Montanans Incorporated, which is the equivalent of a state chamber of commerce for Montana, adopted a resolution on March 23 of this year in support of the stockmen's efforts to secure a reduction in the forest grazing fees for 1933.

When the resolution calling for a 50 per cent reduction in these fees was under consideration in the Agricultural Committee of the House of Representatives last February, rumor was quite prevalent that educational and civic interests in the national forests states were making felt their strong opposition to the proposal because it would lower the amounts to be received for schools and roads. So far it has not been possible to unearth the facts, if any, there were, behind such rumors, and the expression of Montanans Incorporated, substantiates the belief stockmen have always held, that generally the western forest states recognize the importance of the livestock industry and its relationship to the welfare of the entire state.

This is the way the Montana organization stated its attitude on the forest grazing fee question:

We, the directors of Montanans Incorporated, in executive session on this 23rd day of March, 1933, do and hereby endorse the resolutions passed by the Montana Wool Growers Association and the Montana Stockgrowers Association requesting the Secretary of Agriculture to establish the same grazing fee on the National Forests for 1933 as was in effect for 1932; that is, one half of the grazing fee charged in 1931.

We, the directors of the Montanans Incorporated, feel that the grazing fees of the National Forests should be placed upon the basis of the 1932 fee, both as to amounts and dates of payment, and also that in cases where the 1932 fees are still delinquent the applicant on this account should not be deprived of the use of the National Forests for 1933.

We recommend that copies of this resolution be sent to the Secretary of Agriculture, the President of the United States, Secretary of the Montana Wool Growers Association, Secretary of the Montana Stockgrowers Association, and F. R. Marshall, Secretary of the National Wool Growers Association, Salt Lake City.

Wool Freight Rates

LOWER freight rates on wool have recently been put into effect by a number of western lines with a view to meeting truck competition. The Union Pacific rate on sacked wool from Utah common points to Los Angeles harbor, which formerly was \$1.19, is now 75 cents. Similar reductions have been made from intermediate points, and from Idaho points to Portland.

The A. T. & S. Fe and the Southern Pacific recently reduced to \$2.00 the rate on wool from Arizona points to Boston via rail to the southern Atlantic ports, for delivery to steamships running to Boston.

Some western lines have also asked the agreement of their eastern connections in establishing lower east-bound rail rates from truck competitive territory. These reductions, when effective, will not apply to sections that cannot ship wools to Boston via the Pacific Coast ports.

A further proceeding is, under way which may result in general reductions. The Interstate Commerce Commission has decided to hold hearings (Ex Parte 110) upon the request of agricultural and other shippers' organizations, seeking horizontal reductions in all rates on basic commodities. The dates of these hearings have not been announced, but it is probable they will be productive of results.

The Omaha Stockyards Case

A DECISION and order in respect to yardage charges at the Omaha stockyards was rendered in the name of Acting Secretary R. W. Dunlap on March 1, three days prior to the closing of his term of office.

All employees of the Bureau of Animal Industry, which bureau is in charge of the administration of the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921, are regular civil service employees and not affected by changes of administration. It can be assumed that the findings and decisions in these yardage and commission cases

are substantially as worked out and recommended by the Bureau of Animal Industry, though in times past it has been known that solicitors or acting secretaries, who are appointees of the administration, have modified recommendations coming from the Bureau of Animal Industry.

The terms of the decision in the Omaha yardage case are seriously disappointing to shippers to that market. They carry a reduction of one-half cent per head on sheep and hogs and of one cent per head on cattle, making the new rates on rail shipments of sheep, 7½ cents, and on cattle, 34 cents.

The decision shows that the stockyards property covers 274.5 acres, on which the government allowed a land valuation for rate-making purposes of \$1,429,722. Four witnesses, testifying for the stockyards company, appraised the land from \$5,900,000 to \$7,918,000. The government attorneys showed that these valuations were based on a price of \$1.60 per square foot applying in the shopping section of uptown Omaha.

The valuation allowed for structures was \$7,371,893. This was on the basis of cost of reproduction new less allowance for depreciation. The government's appraisal also allowed an item of \$850,000 for going concern value. The government's valuation for rate-making purposes totals \$9,800,000.

For the year 1930 the gross revenue of the yards company was shown as \$2,709,312. This includes all service, taxes, and cost of feeds used. Total expenses were \$1,808,241. This amount included a property tax of \$136,261, a federal income tax of \$123,345, and an allowance for traffic and advertising to the extent of \$49,760. Officers' salaries amounted to \$32,733; legal expenses to \$6,017, and solicitors' expenses and salaries to \$5,791.

While the total value of the Omaha yards property was said to be fairly appraised at \$9,800,000, in arriving at his decision, the Secretary gratuitously added an extra million dollars for good measure. In

respect to rate of return to be allowed, an extra one per cent was added. In the report of the case, the Secretary said that he found 6½ per cent would be a reasonable earning on a fair valuation. In another place, however, he said that in view of the court decisions in connection with the cases of the St. Joseph and Denver yards companies, he felt compelled to make an allowance of 7½ per cent. On this basis he prescribed rates which would return a net earning to the stockyard company of \$810,000 per year as compared to an actual reported average for 1928, 1929, and 1930, of \$858,199.

The official decision and order allows the stockyard company a margin of 60 cents between cost and selling prices of alfalfa hay; 50 cents per bushel on corn, and 25 cents per bushel on oats.

The rates were ordered to be placed in effect on April 15. Subsequently, however, the attorneys for the stockyards company applied for an injunction restraining the Department from putting the rates into effect.

Patronage Dividends Issued by Livestock Co-operatives

STATEMENTS of operating costs and savings effected during the year 1932 have been received from four grower-controlled and operated livestock marketing associations. In each instance patronage dividends, ranging from 30 to 45 per cent, have been issued.

The reports are from the Farmers Union Live Stock Commissions at Omaha, St. Joseph, and Sioux City, and from the Central Cooperative Association at So. St. Paul, Minn.

The Farmers Union at Omaha handled a total of 9971 cars of livestock during the year, 1210 of which were sheep, at a total operating expense of \$85,108.21, or an average of \$8.47 per car. A 49.43 per cent savings was effected and a 45 per cent dividend issued to its members.

The volume of livestock handled

by the St. Joseph organization was 5284 cars. Their operating expenses were \$57,936.78, or 31.32 per cent below income, and a refund of 30 per cent was made.

At Sioux City the Farmers Union's business for 1932 included 6,988 cars of livestock. Their report shows a total expense of \$65,613.58 and a net profit of \$43,221.00, out of which patrons received a 37 per cent refund.

The Central Cooperative Association handled 20,670 cars of livestock during the year at an average cost per car of \$12.469. The net income per car was \$7.1. A patronage refund of 35 per cent and a stock dividend of 8 per cent were issued, the amount returned to stockholders and patrons totaling \$139,391.17.

Commission Rates at St. Louis Market

DETAILS of the decision in the St. Louis commission case have been received since the publication of the new rates in the March issue of the Wool Grower.

The decision and order issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry on February 28 reduced selling commissions on cattle from \$21 to \$25 and on double deck sheep from \$20 to \$15. The Producers Commission Company and the Farmers Union Company, cooperative concerns, had previously made reductions on cattle and hogs. This decision carries the largest reductions that have been ordered in any of the cases considered by the Bureau of Animal Industry in formal proceedings.

At the St. Louis market 46 commission houses handled in 1931, 31,156 cars of cattle, 27,965 cars of hogs, and 2,825 cars of sheep. The only three firms employing fulltime sheep salesmen handled 1,329 cars. One of these salesmen was paid a salary of \$5500 and another of \$4200. On the old vexed question of allowance for expense of getting business, the Bureau decided that \$1.10 was a reasonable allowance in the case of

sheep and \$1.30 per car on cattle. The audit of the books showed that one firm which handled 432 cars of sheep spent \$5.88 per car for getting and maintaining business. The same firm handled 2,895 cars of cattle and had an expenditure of \$3 per car for business getting and maintaining.

The amounts which the decision allows to be covered into the selling commission charges are as follows:

SUMMARY OF REASONABLE COSTS AND PROFITS

	Cattle and Calves	Sheep
REASONABLE COSTS		
Salesmanship	\$ 3.75	\$2.50
Yarding salaries and expense	2.56	1.20
Office salaries	2.22	2.00
Office expenses92	.65
Administration and general	1.00	1.50
Business getting and maintaining	1.30	1.10
Insurance265	.285
Interest50	.50
PROFIT		
To cover management	1.00	1.00
To cover uninsur- able risk08	.08
Total reasonable cost and profit	\$13.595	\$10.815

The decision prescribes as maximum charges for cattle \$15 and for double deck sheep \$15, and for single deck sheep \$11.

This spread between the total of reasonable costs to the prescribed maximum commissions is considerably less than in the Kansas City decision, which was discussed in the Wool Grower for June, 1932.

Rail sheep receipts at St. Louis contain about equal numbers of single and double deck cars. On this basis the average per car rate now to be collected would be \$13 as compared to an average of \$10.81 as the total of all reasonable costs that should be covered into rates.

The same rates as those ordered into effect at the National Stockyards have been adopted by the commission firms at the Mississippi Valley Stock Yards, also at St. Louis.

Around the Range Country

Wyoming

Temperatures averaged near or somewhat above normal, and precipitation, while ample generally, was deficient as compared with normal. More will be needed shortly in places. Unusually heavy snow fell in some northeastern and central counties late in the month. Generally, however, the range is open, though feed is short and late in starting. Consequently much feeding still continues. Livestock are mostly in good condition, though the heavy snow produced some shrinkages in four or five counties.

Hulett

There is plenty of feed (March 29) and stock look well. The spring range will be good; grass is starting with plenty of moisture.

Everybody is talking 8 cents with board for machine shearers and 6 cents for blade men. No shearing has been done and there is no dealing in wool.

State leases for grazing lands carry a rate of five cents an acre, but the privately owned lands can be had for the amount of the taxes.

No lambing around here yet, but we have about the same number of ewes as a year ago. Our winter losses were very small.

The government trappers have about put the coyotes where the grey wolf went. I never hear one howl or see a track in the snow. The sheep bed in pastures wherever night takes them.

Ray C. Edsall.

Worland

February was a bad month, with some exceptionally cold days and very poor feed. March, so far (the 27th), has been better. Feed on the range this winter was by far the poorest I ever saw and at least 95 per cent of the sheep have been fed, some both hay and grain and others just

THE notes on weather conditions, appearing under the names of the various states are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau and based upon reports and publications of that bureau for the month of March.

The Wool Grower welcomes and desires communications from interested readers in any part of the country for this department of the Wool Grower and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and of importance and significance to wool growers.

grain. Hay, in the stack, has been priced at \$5 and \$6.

I think most of the men will sell their clips this season.

There have been a lot of changes lately in the handling of sheep loans and many of the sheepmen are now borrowing from the Agricultural Credit Corporation; very few of them are using the local banks.

Lambing operations will be much smaller than last year, as the number of ewes to lamb is much less.

The situation in respect to coyotes is much worse than it was five years ago. People have quit trapping since pelts became so cheap.

D. E. C.

Rock Springs

We had one of the nicest winters here that I can remember; plenty of feed and just enough snow for the sheep to do well.

We had a couple of cold spells, one about the eighth of December and another one about February 5, that made the sheep pretty gaunt looking, but they came out of it very rapidly after the weather improved.

The first half of March was good as to weather, but now (March 25) we are having blustery weather, with more snow and lower temperatures. This is helping the sheepmen out some as we would have to go down to water again with no feed, as all the water holes were fed out pretty close last fall.

I look for an early spring and plenty of green grass for lambing, which will commence about May 10.

The loss on young sheep during the winter has been very small, about 3 or 4 per cent, while that on old ewes is up as high as 20 per cent at this time. There are a lot of old ewes around here, as nearly everyone has been unable to sell any of them for the last three years.

Coyotes are not so plentiful as they were 10 years ago. Trapping and poisoning got a big part of them too, but the good work couldn't be kept up.

Seven cents and board is the price set in this locality for blade shearing.

There will be about 10 to 15 per cent fewer ewes to lamb this spring compared to last year. But I am sure we will have 10 to 15 per cent more lambs, as last year our sheep were poor and there was no feed to lamb on.

I do not know of any wool being sold or contracted. I think most growers will wait for further developments.

J. A.

Montana

The weather was mostly fair and comparatively mild, with a number of snowstorms passing over the state, yet with less than usual amounts of moisture in some if not many sections. The snow layer was mostly gone at the lower levels early in the month. Livestock have held up in comparatively good shape, some with supplemental feeds, and others on an ample winter range. The ground was drier than for years in some sections. Pastures and winter grains were making a satisfactory start. Farm lambing is nearly completed.

Dell

Spring is rather slow in coming, although the first part of March was fairly good, with a light snow or two during the latter part. The

winter could not be classed as a mild one, for we had considerable snow and an unusual amount of wind. There was an abundance of hay and feed and livestock wintered in fair to good condition with very little loss.

There will be a larger number of ewes lambing in April than for the past few years, and the total for the entire lambing will also be some larger. The age of ewes in this section is fairly good.

No sales of anything have been reported. It has been necessary for the majority of stockmen to secure livestock loans from the government with the banks advancing running expenses.

S. E. Whitworth.

Grass Range

The range is open (March 26) and green grass will be early. The greater amount of moisture makes the spring range prospects much better than they were last year.

Our early lambs are better, much stronger, than usual. I saved more of them than last year, but other operators suffered as much as 5 per cent loss during the cold snap. The average winter loss was around 3 per cent. There has been a 50 per cent cut in lease rates for grazing lands on the reserves.

No losses have been reported as originating with coyotes. Most of them around here have been trapped or caught by dogs.

Chas. G. Brass.

Idaho

Temperatures averaged about normal, with not severely cold spells or notable warm spells. Light, scattered precipitation occurred rather generally over the state but more would be beneficial in most sections. The snow disappeared from the lowlands early in the month, where it had not already melted late in February. Livestock are reported to be in good condition, with plenty of feed available to last until grazing opens generally. Shearing and lamb-

ing progressed under shelter, with no losses of importance. Winter wheat is looking well, but farm work is backward.

Paris

Until the middle of the month, the weather was fair, but last week it was cold and stormy. There is plenty of feed, however (March 23); but spring range feed will be late if the weather continues cold.

Lots of old ewes have died this winter; the loss is estimated at 15 per cent. Our lamb crop, so far, is about 90 per cent of that for this time last year; our ewes were 7 per cent short of last year's number.

Consignment advances on wool are being made at 50 cents a head. So far as I know, there have been no outright sales.

Shearing rates are 6 to 7 cents with board and 8 cents without board for machine shearers; 7 cents for blade men.

Individual owners of grazing lands have lowered their rates about 30 per cent.

No one is trapping coyotes in this locality and very few of them are being killed; so we have had more of them than for some time past.

R. M. Budge.

Caldwell

Very severe weather struck us during the first half of March. This is not a winter range section, however, and all of the sheep are fed. Hay is plentiful (March 20) at \$4 a ton, 8-foot measurement.

Our lambing bands are about 10 to 15 per cent short of last year's.

Little activity in wool here yet. Whether or not the growers generally will sell their clips or consign them all depends on the attitude of the R. A. C. C.

Lease rates on state grazing lands have been reduced from 7 cents to 5 cents an acre; leases on private lands are also somewhat lower.

We have been having a little more trouble from the coyotes this year than usual. With pelts worth less

and the bounty reduced and uncertain, there is little incentive to kill them.

Baldwin Fox Brown.

Washington

The weather has been rainy or snowy much of the time, and temperatures have been about seasonal, falling below normal a few days toward the close. Grain and grasses have made slow growth. Some early shearing on farms was begun but under rather unfavorable conditions. As a rule, livestock have had plenty to eat, and their condition averages from fair to good, which is about the normal condition for this date.

Winthrop

At the present time (March 25) all the snow is gone and the feed is starting. We expect to turn the sheep out about the 5th of April. Grass on the spring range got a good start last fall, so we should have good grazing there.

We are getting about 150 per cent crop from about the same number of ewes as lambing last year. Our winter loss was only about 2 per cent.

Reductions from 2 to 5 cents per acre have been made this year in the lease rates on state and privately owned grazing lands.

Eight cents is apparently to be the shearing rate this season. This applies to machine shearers and includes board; I do not know what blade men will get.

So far there is no movement in wool. It looks as if the R. A. C. C. is going to have the sheepmen hold their wool and advance them money so as to avoid forcing sales.

Frank B. Morse.

Toppenish

The weather here has been good but feed conditions have not been up to par, although the spring range looks pretty fair.

The early lamb crop does not measure up to last year's in size, although we lambing about as many ewes. Range ewes suffered a 5 per

cent death loss during the winter.

I have not heard of anything doing in wool yet. Shearing rates are 8 cents with board for both machine and blade work.

Since the bounty was removed, coyotes have been on the increase.

Charles Myers.

Starbuck

The weather here during the month of March was fine, and the prospects for plenty of early feed are good. A few bands of sheep grazed out on the range all winter, with the exception of about 10 days, and have come through in very good shape. I don't think the winter loss has been any greater than usual.

About the same number of ewes are being lambled as in former years and a better percentage of lambs is being saved than last year.

Coyotes are not as troublesome as in former years, and we give credit to the government trappers for the change.

We expect to have to pay 8 cents and board for shearing. There have been no sales of wool so far, in this vicinity. One bunch of ewe lambs sold in February at \$4.00 a head.

J. M. Moran.

Oregon

The weather has been inclement, even for plant and grass growth, with temperatures too low, often below the freezing point, and snow or rain abundant over the western and some eastern counties. Much livestock feeding has been necessary, and a considerable loss of early lambs occurred. Feed has been plentiful in most sections, however, and thus most livestock are still in fairly good shape.

Pendleton

Weather and grass conditions have not been good for the month of March in this territory. There was plenty of hay to feed all the stock through, however, but the sheep did not do good on hay this month, perhaps for the reason that they had been on dry feed so long.

The prospects for spring range

are not particularly bright at this time because there have been so many drying winds, but of course favorable weather conditions can change that situation materially in a very short time.

The death losses in sheep have not been excessive. I think the number of ewes being lambled are from 5 to 10 per cent less than last year. The percentage of lambing, especially among the early lambers, I do not think will be as high as last year.

There has been some disposition to make concessions in the price of range leases by those having range to lease.

Coyotes are again on the increase because of the fact that the Biological Survey has been short of funds.

The price for shearing to be paid to the machine shearer will not exceed 7 cents per head, with board. There has been little or no consigning of wool up to date.

Fred W. Falconer.

California

This has been a month of even temperatures, averaging somewhat above normal, until the closing week when it turned cooler with some frost, checking vegetation somewhat. Precipitation was ample over most of the northern portion, and somewhat excessive on the northwest coast, but in southern and some central counties it is much too dry. Consequently ranges are not the best over much of the state, though livestock are in fairly good shape.

Boonville

We have had light rains and warm weather during March and the spring range is very good at this time (March 26).

The number of ewes lambled this year was about half of that of a year ago. Winter losses were heavy, about 40 per cent.

Coyotes are decidedly less troublesome, due to the work of the Biological Survey.

I haven't heard of any transactions in wool so far.

I. C. Burke.

Fallon

Conditions here are improving, although feed is poor (March 25). If we get late rains, we will have feed; otherwise, not much.

About the same number of ewes had lambs this season. Last year, with twins, our percentage of lambs saved was 100, but this year it is only 75. Our winter death loss was about 10 per cent. Dave Burbank.

Longvale

Feed conditions since March 1 have been minus, and as yet (March 24) no feed has started. Instead of getting along on from 10 to 15 tons of hay, I have fed 60 tons to date. But prospects look good for late spring feed.

The winter losses in range ewes have been enormous. Some have lost almost their entire flocks; others one-half, and some not so many. My loss was quite small as I had my sheep in the barns, feeding them twice daily.

There will be no lamb crop to speak of—possibly an average of 30 to 40 per cent. It is impossible to compare this year's lambing with last as I know that a year ago I turned out 96 per cent and this year if I have 60 per cent I'll do fine.

Coyotes in some sections have been very troublesome. Snows in the high mountains have driven them down. But the hunters are doing wonderful work. If it were not for the Biological Survey, we people would have to go out of business.

B. M. Bucknell.

Dixon

We have been having good weather, but more rains are necessary to insure late feed. On the range, the feed got started late, so it is shorter than usual; very few of the sheepmen are now (March 18) depending on green feed.

I figure that the number of ewes lambing this year is ten per cent under that for a year ago.

Most growers in this section will hold their spring wool clip, if possible.

H. G. Brown.

(Continued to page 28)

THE WOOL SITUATION

By DEAN J. A. HILL

ON the whole the outlook for wool prices is better than it was at this time last year. For one thing, prices rose in Boston after the first of March, and some sales were made at the high levels. Quotations have held steady since, although odd lots may have changed hands at lower prices. This is in direct contrast to the situation last year, when prices on the grease basis were falling at the rate of a cent or two a month after the end of February.

The improvement of prices just before the start of the shearing season is important in itself. It is the first time since the long decline started in June, 1928, there has been an increase in quotations for Territory wool between February and July. It must be remembered that it comes when the private wool merchants and manufacturers have nothing to gain and considerable to lose through prices going up while dealers' stocks are low and the new clip is ready to be bought. Therefore, it must be taken as an illustration of the fundamental strength of the market.

The great significance of the March rise, even though there may be a slight reaction, as some competent market observers look for, is the effect it has already had upon the ideas of the growers concerning wool values. Although the Boston quotations are considerably below a year ago, the growers in many sections of the West have already refused offers which they would have accepted last year at this time, and much higher than they did accept when they sold their wool in June and July.

So long as American wool prices are below the importing level, there is no question but what the growers themselves make the prices during the shearing season and in many cases for months afterwards. In spite of the hopeful outlook at the time this is being written, if the

growers and their financial backers should all become possessed of the desire to turn their wool into cash immediately after it is sheared, it is quite possible for wool to fall as far below the March level by the middle of July as it did last year.

The important thing in the situation this year is the changed outlook of the growers. If they continue to hold wool for full market prices in spite of the gloomy talk they will hear from the buyers, prices can easily advance 2 to 4 cents a pound on the grease basis before shearing, provided, of course, that the foreign markets remain steady or advance. That is, wool should advance to a parity with foreign prices with the duty added, if the marketing is done sanely.

It will take more than the expected decline in production or even organized restriction of production to accomplish this. A study of prices during the past several years when 100 to 200 million pounds of combing and clothing wool were imported each year, shows that wool was often forced below the importing level, owing to the eagerness of the growers to sell. If production should be curtailed 25 per cent and all or nearly all of the growers insisted on selling for cash at shearing time, domestic wool would be far below importing levels a considerable part of the year. Outside of some untried magic, the growers themselves will have to maintain prices this year.

The flockmasters must be their own saviors, and so far they seem to be proceeding very sanely. If they and their financial backers will stick together and refuse to sell wool below a full parity with the foreign market after the duty is added, wool can still advance 2 to 4 cents a pound. This may seem to be expecting too much. However, if the loan companies which are organized under the Reconstruction Finance

Corporation will encourage and assist an orderly marketing program the trick can be turned. It should be to the interest of these companies to see that the product is sold for the full market price, and at present the full market price is the foreign price plus the duty. Any price less than this which is accepted will be favoring the manufacturers and the consumers at the expense of the wool growers and their creditors. Although the prospects for the new clip do not promise any great reductions in domestic supplies, yet they do give assurance that there is no danger of an unmanageable surplus accumulating over a period of years, thus making it safe for the growers to organize any kind of a holding movement that promises to bring prices to where they should be.

It may be expected that during the first part of the season, at least, the growers will hold for ranch prices that are fully on a parity with the quotations in Boston. However, free selling at what appears to be a Boston parity early in the season may have a weakening and disastrous effect on the market later.

Of course, those who fully believe in cooperative marketing will think that all this talk about how to keep wool prices from breaking during the shearing season is a waste of words. They would settle it all by consigning wool through the co-operatives to be sold as the market demanded it. However, we must face the fact that a large number of growers are still outside the co-operatives and seem unlikely to come in for many years unless there is some kind of coercion, governmental or otherwise, used to get them in. They must be taken into consideration, and they and their kind are the ones who bring on such disastrous breaks in the wool market as occurred last summer. They must be kept in mind in all discussions of marketing possibilities. To get prices

to a world parity they must resist low prices by holding if necessary.

The wool growers should take a hopeful attitude and be willing to gamble a little on the belief that several of the various relief measures that the new administration is putting through will tend to improve business, and improved business will certainly help the demand for wool. They must not be worried for fear holding wool for a price equal to

the world parity will curtail consumption. The few cents a pound added to the cost of raw material will not add enough to the cost of clothing to retard buying when business recovers and people are able to buy again. Even small carry-over into the 1934 wool season should not be regarded with alarm, because the decline in production in the United States will soon allow any small carry-over to be absorbed.

Each ton of cull potatoes, fed at the rate of one pound per day with barley and alfalfa, replaced 240 pounds barley and 562 pounds alfalfa. When fed at the rate of 1.63 pounds per day, they replaced 156 pounds barley and 410 pounds alfalfa. Cooking the potatoes did not prove profitable. Each ton of cooked potatoes replaced 68 pounds of barley and 422 pounds of alfalfa.

Sugar Beet By-Products

The Minnesota Experiment Station reports on a test with 240 lambs, concluded recently, in which beet molasses, dried beet pulp, and dried molasses pulp were studied. The press statement issued does not give the amounts or prices of these feeds as used, but states that the "three beet-sugar by-product feeds have been found to have about the same feeding value, pound for pound, as whole barley as a part of the ration for feeding lambs."

The clear dried pulp had a slightly higher value than the molasses or the molasses pulp combination. The author said that "with the extremely low price for farm-grown grains this winter, the beet by-product

Recent Lamb Feeding Experiments

A NUMBER of experiment stations continue to report results of feeding tests of great value to commercial feeders. One point of great interest and some surprise is shown in recent tests which report material margins of profit from finishing low-priced lambs with present day low-priced feeds.

The Idaho Handbook

Bulletin No. 194 of the Agricultural Experiment Station of Idaho is really a feeders' handbook. Under the authorship of Professors Rinehart, Hickman, and Johnson, it discusses the economic place of lamb feeding in Idaho agriculture, and covers buying, feeding equipment, and rations.

Results of 11 years' tests at the Caldwell and Aberdeen stations are included. They cover 16 different combinations of Idaho feeds. Barley versus corn with alfalfa was studied in three different trials, which showed 276 pounds of corn as being equal to 296 pounds of barley.

Other tests included comparisons of different combinations of barley, corn, wheat and oats. The details and results are concisely presented in the bulletin, which should be studied by all feeders using materials such as are available in Idaho. The bulletin can be obtained from the University of Idaho at Moscow.

The results reported from the use of cull peas, beans and potatoes are of peculiar interest. The authors say:

Cull beans can replace approximately 20 per cent of the barley satisfactorily. Larger amounts cause digestive disturbance and scouring. Each ton of beans replaced 1591 pounds of barley, but required 409 pounds more of alfalfa. Grinding the barley and beans did not increase their efficiency.

Cull peas, when replacing 20 per cent of the barley, were a valuable supplement to a ration of barley and alfalfa. Each ton of peas replaced 2057 pounds of alfalfa and 1371 pounds of barley. Cull peas, when replacing only 10 per cent of the barley, did not make a favorable showing. * * *

COOPERATIVE LAMB FEEDING DEMONSTRATION UTAH-IDAHO SUGAR COMPANY AND UTAH AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE—MONROE, UTAH

4 Lots of 200 Lambs Each Fed 70 Days—December 15 to February 23, 1933

LOT NUMBER	1	2	3	4
Daily Feed Per Lamb	Barley 1.39 Alfalfa 1.39 Salt .01	Barley 1.03 Beet Mol. .47 Alfalfa 1.60 Salt .01	Barley .77 D. M. Pulp .77 Alfalfa 1.31 Salt .01	Barley 1.03 Pellets* .51 Alfalfa 1.47 Salt .01
Av. Initial Wt. Feed Lot	74.2	71.0	70.2	70.5
Av. Final Wt. Feed Lot	95.8	93.2	94.1	95.5
Av. Daily Gain	.31	.32	.34	.36
FEED USED PER CWT. GAIN:				
Whole Barley	450.5	324.8	225.5	288.4
Beet Molasses		148.2		
Dried Mol. Beet Pulp			225.5	
U & I Pellets*				142.8
Alfalfa	450.5	504.5	383.7	411.6
Salt	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.5
Feed Cost Per Cwt. Gain	4.52	4.23	4.24	4.28
FINANCIAL STATEMENT:				
Cost Per Lamb (\$3.50 Cwt.)	2.60	2.49	2.46	2.47
Feed Cost Per Lamb	.98	.94	1.01	1.07
Total	3.58	3.43	3.47	3.54
Finished Lambs—No.	110	118	128	148
%	59	62	69	80
Est. Mkt. Wt. (4% Shk.)	92.0	89.4	90.4	91.7
\$ Per Cwt. to Break Even	3.89	3.84	3.84	3.86
Est. Mkt. Price Cwt. **	\$4.73	4.75	4.81	4.82
Est. Return Per Lamb	4.36	4.25	4.35	4.42
Net Return Per Lamb	.78	.82	.88	.88
% Death Loss	1/2	1/2	1.5	3
Return Less Loss	.76	.80	.83	.78

Feed Cost Per Ton: Alfalfa, \$5; Barley, \$15; Dried Pulp, \$14; U & I Pellets, \$15; Molasses, \$7; Salt, \$10.

* Compressed mixture of dried beet pulp, beet molasses, and steamed bone meal. Product of Utah-Idaho Sugar Company.

** Finished lambs @ \$4.90. Others, \$4.50 Cwt.

feeds have to be purchased at prices per ton not exceeding the price of barley, corn or oats per ton."

A more comprehensive report of the use of beet by-products is contained in the report by Prof. E. J. Maynard of a 70-day test with 4 lots of 50 lambs each, conducted at Monroe, Utah, which terminated on February 23.

The detailed results are included in the table shown on page 15.

Although whole barley and alfalfa hay form the basis for lamb feeding rations in Utah, this combination alone has a tendency toward growth production rather than finish. Beet by-products, which are high in carbohydrates or fat-producing nutrients, improve the balance of the ration and increase its fattening properties.

With barley at 75 cents per hundred and alfalfa at \$5.00 per ton, beet molasses showed a feed replacement value equal to \$10.91 per ton, dried beet pulp replaced feed worth \$16.49 per ton, and each ton of pellets fed replaced barley and alfalfa worth \$18.42 per ton.

Lambs fattened on barley and alfalfa hay gained .31 pounds per head daily at a feed cost of \$4.52 per hundred. The addition of beet molasses increased daily gains to .32 pounds and reduced the feed cost per hundred to \$4.23 per hundred. The addition of dried molasses beet pulp increased the daily gain to .34 pounds per head at a feed cost of \$4.24, while pellets increased the gain to .36 pounds per head daily at a cost of \$4.28 per hundred.

At the end of the feeding trial 59 per cent of the barley and alfalfa lambs were finished. Where molasses was added, 62 per cent of the lambs were finished. Where dried molasses beet pulp was added, there were 69 per cent of the lambs finished, and where pellets were added, 80 per cent of the lambs were finished.

In the demonstration, beet molasses cost \$7.00 per ton, dried molasses beet pulp \$14.00 a ton, and pellets \$15.00 per ton.

Utah Growers Seek Range Control

FORMER Congressman Don B. Colton appears to have at least represented the ideas of his state (Utah) in his persistent work for passage of his range control plan embodied in H. R. 11816. This bill passed in the House of Representatives last session but was unfavorably received by the Senate Agricultural Committee.

A number of associations have been formed by Utah wool growers with the idea of securing for each an allotment of the public domain winter range to be used cooperatively. It is reported that over seven million acres of land are embraced in the applications filed for withdrawals for this purpose.

Members of these associations plan to secure withdrawals of the desired lands for their associations and then to use the range under regulations worked out by themselves and approved by the authorities of the Federal Land Office in somewhat the same respect as is now being done by the Mizpah-Pumpkin Creek area in Montana.

The West Desert Grazing Association was recently formed, with S. M. Jorgensen of Salina, Utah, as president. A resolution was forwarded to the Utah delegation in Congress, asking them to have set apart five million acres of grazing lands in the southwestern part of the state. The Millard County Land and Livestock Association has also, been organized along similar lines with C. W. Watts of Kanosh as president.

Montana Bulletin on Grazing Districts

AVERY complete discussion of the operation of a successful grazing district is contained in Bulletin No. 127—Grazing Districts, Their Nature and Possibilities in Range Land Utilization, published last December by the Montana Extension Service in Agriculture and

Home Economics and the Montana State College.

The organization used as the basis for this exposition of the grazing-district method of range control is that of the Mizpah-Pumpkin Creek, organized in 1928, and the first and only one of its kind set up at the time of the publication of the bulletin.

Space is also devoted to the steps necessary in the formation of such a district and in obtaining from the federal government the public domain land to be included in it.

Mr. R. B. Tootell, Extension Land Economist, is the author of the bulletin, copies of which may be obtained from the Montana State College.

Wyoming Won't Repeal

THE demonstration of truth-in-fabrics legislation as to workability and practicability still goes on in Wyoming, and enemies of virgin wool identification in fabrics must content themselves with keeping this dangerous doctrine isolated within the state.

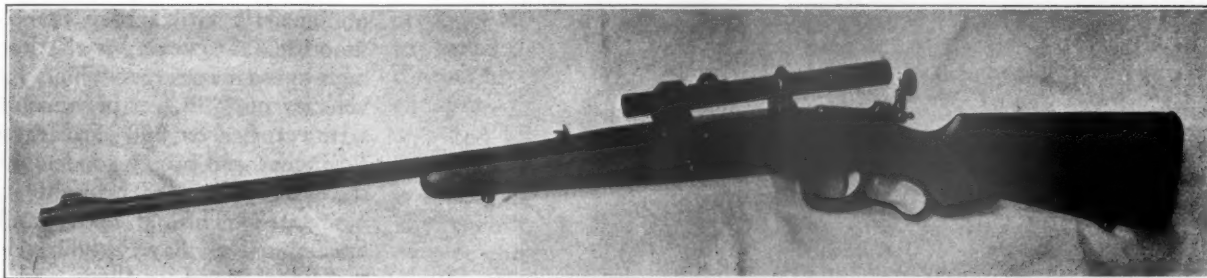
During the recent session of the Wyoming legislature a bill was introduced, apparently with strong backing, to repeal the Truth-in-Fabrics Act. The bill was introduced by the Park County delegation in whose ranks were numbered the Republican floor leader and the assistant floor leader of the Democrats in the Lower House. In the Committee of the Whole this bill was indefinitely postponed by a standing vote with the above mentioned House officers alone voting for it.

Many Wyoming clothiers used their influence to kill the repeal bill and none tried to save it.

With this plain showing of Wyoming's faith in her law, which was designed to protect consumers in the purchase of wool fabrics and wool producers from the unfair competition of unnamed substitutes selling as wool, there would seem to be no good reason why the people of other states should not have similar protection. Kleber H. Hadsell.

Coyotes and Coyote Rifles

By ALLYN H. TEDMON



Latest model Savage 1899, caliber .250-3000, Lyman tang windguage sight, gold bead front sight, mounted with a Zeiss 2¼ power hunting telescope held in Western Gun Sight Company mounts. This is in the author's opinion the best rifle a sheepman could own for use on coyotes.

IT seemed that low prices, scarce water, and short grass were not obstacles enough to the Old Sheepman. The night before a pack of hungry coyotes had killed nine good lambs and a yearling ewe over on the Wild Horse Range, and the Old Man had just finished reading to us a letter from the Biological Survey telling him that they were about out of funds. The message said that the economy program of the federal government, coupled with the lowered assessed valuation on livestock, had reduced their funds to the point where they had had to cut the force of hunters one half. It was very plain to us all that no help could be expected from this source in this moment of emergency.

"And here we haven't a trapper in the outfit," the Old Man exploded. "And none of us knows a thing about spreading poison. Fact is poison is dangerous when put out by greenhorns, anyway."

"Why don't you get some rifles for the herders?" I finally suggested, not forgetful that the Old Man much preferred to rely on the Survey hunters, and in fact was opposed to his men having guns.

"Just a waste of money," he snapped. "I want my herders to herd sheep and not be galavanting over the badlands trying to hunt coyotes. I sent a rifle out to that Wyoming herder last winter and all he did was to throw away my money punching holes in the landscape."

"What else could you expect?" asked Bill, a dyed-in-the-wool rifle crank. "Nobody could connect with a coyote with an old relic like that .44-40 base-ball thrower you gave him to use. If you'd given him a real rifle he would have done something."

"A real rifle?" snorted the Old Man. "A gun's a gun so far as I can see."

"Yes a real rifle, I said," Bill went on. "A Savage .250-3000, a .270 Winchester or an '06 Springfield."

"What do these here guns cost?" Slim asked, turning to me.

"O, that new Savage," I replied, "will cost around \$65 with good sights, and the Winchester and Springfield about the same, maybe a little more with the best sights."

"Sixty-five dollars?" exclaimed the Old Man. "What do you take me for, just a plain ordinary damn fool or a millionaire? Me pay \$65 for a rifle for some cracked-brain herder to entertain himself with? Not if I know it."

Bill started to reply, but took a chew of tobacco instead. The Old Man certainly was ranty when it came to talking guns. They were just a waste of time so far as he could see; but the situation facing him at this moment was serious and something had to be done.

"Just why are these fancy guns any better than the old Winchester?" finally asked Slim. "Tell me that."

As a matter of fact the Old Man

knew nothing of firearms and was so busy with his sheep he cared less. He objected to a man in his employ having a private rifle even though the fellow furnished his own ammunition. But right now as Slim asked his question I could tell by the Old Man's face that he was interested in spite of himself. Visions of nine torn-up lambs were too fresh in his mind for him to pass up any suggestion.

"To begin with," I said, addressing Slim but for the benefit of the Old Man, "the bullet from every rifle travels in a curve and not in a straight line, and the faster the bullet travels the nearer a straight line this curve is. Therefore, the old Winchester is no good for coyotes because the bullet travels too slow and its curve, or trajectory, is too high. That hunk of lead makes a path through the air all the same as a baseball and no man can consistently hit coyotes with such a rifle at unknown ranges. And most coyotes are a long way off at unknown ranges when you get a shot at them."

"One hundred fifty or 200 yards," said Bill, shooting a golden stream of tobacco juice at a blue-bottle fly sunning itself nearby.

"That's about right," agreed the Old Man, apparently listening to every word.

"Then when you have a shot at a coyote at 200 yards," I went on, "you must use a rifle that has speed, a flat trajectory and is accurate; and



"We discussed the old style .30-30, the .30-40 Winchester, the Krag and the .22 High Power. The boy wanted to know about the .25-20."

regardless how much speed a rifle has if it is not accurate it is worthless. For instance the trajectory of the .250-3000 and the Springfield, that is the height of the bullet above the line of sight at 100 yards when the rifle is sighted in for 200 yards, is about 2.5 inches. On the other hand the bullet from the .44-40 must rise about 16 inches at 100 yards in order to hit center at 200 yards. So high, you see, that unless you knew the exact range, a coyote would be perfectly safe almost anywhere along the line.

"A coyote isn't very big, you remember. Nothing but fur and legs and measuring only 7 or 8 inches at the shoulder. So when you get a target like this off 200 yards, a trajectory of 3 inches is about the limit to allow consistent hits at 200 yards or over. That is, should your coyote be 230 yards away instead of 200 as you judged, the fall of the

bullet beyond 200 yards, the range at which the rifle is sighted for, would be so little that you should easily hit the animal. Such rifles as the Springfield and .250-3000 should be sighted in for 200 yards, while the high speed .25-35 and .30-30 should be sighted in at 150 yards. With this sight setting you could over or under judge your distance 25 to 50 yards and yet make a hit, provided of course that you held true. This is the main argument in favor of these fast shooting, deadly accurate rifles; they make hitting at least three times as easy. I'll never forget the first coyote I shot with my .250-3000, it went down so quick I couldn't believe it."

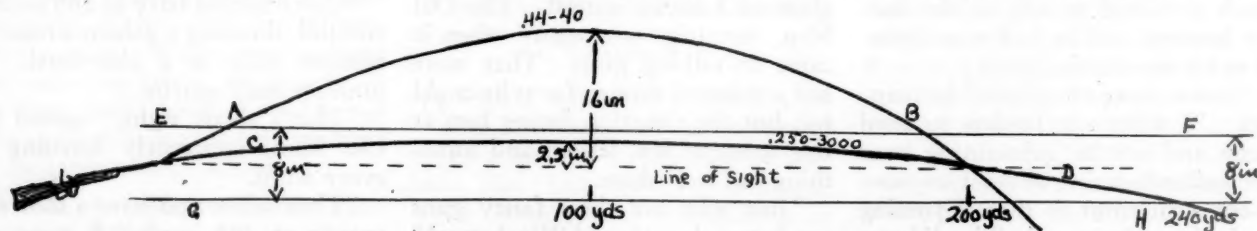
"Old Jake the Survey hunter's got one of them kind of guns," volunteered the boy. "He sure can hit coyotes good, too."

"Of course he can," agreed Bill. "It's a Savage, and that baby's little

old bullet shoots so flat that if you hold right at all you just can't help but hit a wolf."

We discussed the old style .30-30 which with old style ammunition is not entirely satisfactory for coyote shooting. However, with the new high speed cartridges which have a velocity of 2500 feet per second and a trajectory over 200 yards range of 3.5 inches, and pretty good accuracy, these old rifles are brought into a new class. The old .25-35 and .32 Special rifles have high velocity cartridges made for them, and while none of these revamped rifles are as accurate as the Springfield or the Savage .250, yet they will do fairly well in this coyote game. Of course the sights on these old rifles must be changed, either a higher front sight or a lower rear sight is what is needed, often just filing deeper the notch of the rear sight will do; but aside from this nothing else need be done.

Bill and I tried to make clear that coyote rifles must be accurate. For instance, a Match Springfield rifle is capable of keeping ten shots inside of the palm of a man's hand at 300 yards when shot from a machine rest. None of our other rifles will do this well, but it just illustrates what the finest accuracy is. A good solid-frame Savage rifle in the .250-3000 caliber will keep ten shots in a circle of from 2 to 3 inches at 100 yards; in the average ranch rifle the circle would probably measure nearer 3 inches. The .300 Savage, the .270 Winchester, the average '06 Springfield and others of the same type will do about the same, while probably the high-speed cartridges for the .30-30 and the like will need a circle of nearer four inches. At 200 yards these group sizes will be



Why a flat trajectory makes hitting easier. A B, trajectory of .44-40 when sighted for 200 yards; C D, trajectory of .250-3000 when sighted for 200 yards; E F G H, area in which bullet must remain to hit coyote anywhere from muzzle to 200 yards.

Notice how quickly the bullet of the .44-40 drops out of the 8-inch area. On the other hand, see how the flat trajectory of the .250-3000 holds the bullet within this area for 30 to 40 yards beyond the 200-yard mark.

nearly double what they are at 100 yards. That is, the Savage .250-3000, Springfield, etc., would give groups at 200 yards of from 4 to 6 inches, while the high-speed cartridges for the .30-30 and .25-35 would be nearer 6 to 8 inches. Just as a comparison the group from an old .44-40 would be 8 or 10 inches in diameter at 200, which isn't so bad in itself, but the trajectory is so high you couldn't judge distance well enough to land the group on a coyote.

"A real coyote rifle should have a telescope sight on it," I said. "For instance a Savage lever action .250-3000 rifle with a low-power telescope mounted in Western mounts is almost the ideal ranchman's coyote rifle. All rifles should be fitted with aperture rear sights to do their best shooting, but it takes a telescope sight to show just what a rifle can do."

"Why wouldn't a .25-20 do?" the boy asked.

"It would be pretty good," said Bill, "if you didn't shoot over 100 yards and used the high-speed cartridges. This cartridge ain't got power enough to reach out and crack them tawny devils at the ranges you got to shoot at 'em. They's a lot better for some fellers, however, than an old Springfield would be."

"Why so?" asked Slim.

"Just 'cause most men can't shoot a kickin' rifle and hit anything with it," smiled Bill. "This here old Springfield," he had brought his fine Sedgley-Springfield from the bunk house and held it up for inspection, "kicks like a mule for some fellers. For this reason it ain't the kind of a rifle for the Old Man to get. A .22 High Power Savage, or a .250-3000 are lots better for the average feller."

"That's right," I added. "The Springfield is too much gun for lots of men, and in fact you don't need so much power for killing coyotes. A .25 Remington Rimless in the bolt action model would make a fine rifle, so would a cut down Krag, properly sighted and shooting high speed ammunition; yet its recoil might be a little heavy for some men."

By this time the Old Man was as much interested as any of the rest of us. In a surprising time a half dozen rifles of different makes miraculously appeared, and with my own Savage .250-3000, which I happened to have with me, each was thoroughly discussed and commented upon.

"Well I see your argument," the Old Man finally admitted. "But it is simply impossible for me to pay any such prices for rifles to turn over to the herders."

"Maybe you could get some good second-hand ones," I suggested, having a happy thought. "I'll bet the second-hand stores in Denver are full of them at a time like this."

"What do you suppose I'd have to pay for such guns?" asked the Old Man, anxiously. "We've just got to stop this coyote business whether I like guns about camp or not."

"I imagine you could get good .30-30's for \$12 or \$15," I said, "while a Savage '99 model in .250-3000 or .22 High Power would cost probably around \$25. I have seen good ones sell for less than this; but not with good sights."

"So you think my herders could clean up these confounded coyotes, do you?" said the Old Man, thoughtfully.

"I sure do," I nodded. "That is with good rifles, properly sighted."

"When are you going back to Denver?" he asked.

"In the morning."

"All right," he nodded. "You get me four rifles, the kind you claim so much for, and enough cartridges to run this outfit for a couple of months. Get them back here just as soon as you can and I'll just try your crazy rifle idea."

Well, I got the rifles all right and after Bill and I adjusted the sights to fit each herder, and gave them instructions where needed, the war on the coyotes began. The last I heard was that the herders and the good rifles were winning, but the best news yet is in Bill's last letter. He says that the Old Man recently showed up at the ranch with a latest

model .250-3000 fitted with a telescope sight, all his own. Apparently he has changed his ideas on rifles for coyotes.

Meat Cooking Schools Effective in Promoting Sales

A TOTAL attendance of 24,650 women was registered at the four major cooking schools held by the Homemakers Service Department of the National Live Stock and Meat Board since February 1. The size and quality of the audiences have been attributed to the fact that many women have had to turn their attention from the more cultural affairs of life to the food requirements of the family, and since cook they must, they want to do it intelligently.

These recent schools were held in Lincoln, Galesburg, and Waukegan, Illinois, and Council Bluffs, Iowa. They were worked up cooperatively with the leading newspapers in each city. The newspapers set the stage. For two weeks or more before the school opens they see to it that the publicity material furnished by the Meat Board attracts the eyes of their women readers, and during the school, of course, the feature articles continue.

Beef, pork, lamb, and lard are given a place in the curriculum of the schools. Also, for variety and attractiveness a few salads, vegetable and dessert dishes are prepared. Meat recipe books are distributed and there is the usual drawing for the meat cuts and the cooked dishes.

The greater use of meat is the objective of the schools, which means increased consumer purchases from retailers and in turn larger sales by packers and the maintenance or improvement of prices for the producers. In Waukegan it is reported the meat dealer had to employ two extra clerks to handle the increased business following the second session of the school.

Future schools are scheduled for the larger consuming centers farther

east. One is to be given in Akron, Ohio, in the near future and others in Syracuse, Rochester and Albany, New York; Evansville and Indianapolis, Ind., and Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Board's activity in other lines is also continuing. Since January 1 over a hundred lamb cutting demonstrations have been given in 27 cities over the country. Likewise, there has been a wide distribution of lamb publicity. A recently issued broadside of the Meat Board illustrates the popularity of this material in large and small newspapers in all parts of the country.

Effective work is also being done by way of the radio, for which the Board furnishes the dialogue and the recipes to be used.

Feed and Wool Growth

RESULTS of four years' study of the effect of feed upon the wool production of range ewes is contained in Bulletin No. 240 of the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station by Prof. A. C. Esplin.

The general plan of the experiment was to select ewes from range flocks and to feed them at the experiment station, making subsequent studies of the two sets of fleeces. No records are reported of the weights or gains made by the ewes, but it is reported that during the winter season the ewes fed at the station "were fed alfalfa hay, corn silage or beet pulp with approximately one fourth of a pound of barley for several weeks beginning at lambing time. They were always in a thrifty condition but at no time over fat." In summer they were pastured on the farm or forest reserve.

Fifty ewes were selected from each of several range flocks, 25 of them being shipped to the experiment station at Logan and the others remaining on the range and being branded for identification at shearing time.

In the five years of study 250 station-grown fleeces were obtained and the same number grown under range conditions. The ewes were all

of the fine wool type and most of the fleeces graded either fine or half blood.

The most surprising result reported is that of the finding of no difference in the average length of staple in the two sets of fleeces. Both station and range flocks averaged 2.51 inches over the five years.

The grease weight of the fleeces of the station-fed ewes averaged 10.6 pounds, which was 10 per cent above the range ewes. The results of scouring the same fleeces showed a 28 per cent increase in the yield of the station-fed ewes.

The range fleeces had an average shrinkage of 65.8, while the farm-grown ones shrank only 60.9 per cent.

A similar experiment on the influence of nutrition upon wool production as conducted at the University of California was reported by Prof. J. F. Wilson of that institution in the *National Wool Grower* for December, 1931.

Causes of Big Head

BIG head and lungers are briefly discussed in the last report of the chemical, bacteriological and pathological laboratories of the Montana Livestock Sanitary Board. In respect to big head, the report says:

The Department veterinarians have investigated several outbreaks of big head. This condition is apparently not of an infectious or contagious nature. We believe it is due to the animal becoming sensitized to some particular plant or substance and that this sensitization is brought out or manifests itself when the animal is subjected to adverse weather conditions or excessive sunlight. In big head a number of animals become affected within a few hours of each other.

There is also a condition that resembles big head but which is more sporadic in nature that is not due to a sensitization but is caused apparently by some micro-organism, probably a filterable virus.

The best treatment for big head is to get the affected animal into protected shade and let it absolutely alone. Bland emollients or lard may be applied to the head but under no condition should the affected animals be driven hurriedly to shelter. Some recommend scarifying or cutting the affected areas and letting the fluid escape but such a procedure is questionable. We prefer get-

ting the animals into shelter and shade and then letting them absolutely alone.

The present status of the work on the disease known as lungers is reported as follows:

We are sorry to report that nothing new has been determined on this disease. It appears to remain about stationary in its occurrence. We are quite positive that there has been no great spread of disease during the past two years but it takes its toll from our sheep flocks every year. The United States Bureau of Animal Industry is still working on this disease, as is our Veterinary Research Laboratory, and we hope that eventually something definite will be developed to aid us in preventing this benign, slow but rather fatal infection.

Early Lamb Crop 8 Per Cent Smaller

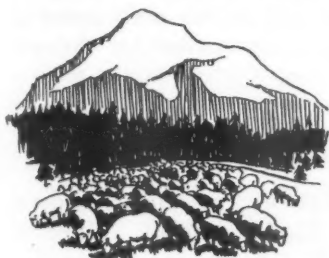
THE Department of Agriculture reports the early lamb crop, as of March 1, in the principal early lambing states as 8 per cent smaller than at the same time in 1932. The early lamb crop can be considered as contributing 25 per cent of the year's production, but in recent years the size of this crop has corresponded quite closely with the extent of the total crop.

California's crop is estimated to be from 10 to 15 per cent under that of last year, with lighter weights and later shipping dates indicated. In Arizona the March and April shipments of early lambs will be larger than in 1932, and if feed conditions continue favorable, there will be increased marketings from that state in May and June. The early lamb crop in Texas was smaller and heavy losses are reported. In the northern states, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon, a smaller lamb crop is also reported, though the percentages of lambs saved are higher than a year ago. The decrease there was due to smaller number of breeding ewes.

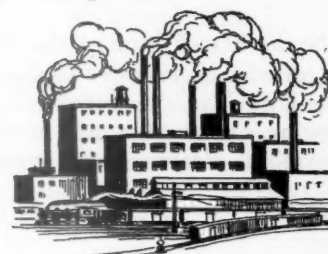
FEED LOT CHARGES LOWERED

On April 4, the Valley Stock Yards and Grain Company of Valley, Nebr., and the Fremont Stock Yards at Fremont, Nebr., announced, as effective from that date, a rate of two cents per head per day for grazing sheep at their yards. This is a reduction of one cent from the 1932 charge.

The National Wool Marketing Corporation News Bulletin



• • • • •
GROWER OWNED AND OPERATED



THE wool market during the month of March has gone through several phases.

When the banking holiday became nation-wide business was practically at a standstill momentarily, and it was not expected that much if any wool would be sold. There quickly developed, however, an opinion in some quarters that any rearrangement of the financial structure would be equivalent to a degree of inflation, which would be expected to raise the price of raw materials. This started an active buying movement which lasted about two weeks, during which time a considerable quantity of wool was sold, and the market was advanced from three to five cents per pound, clean basis. No doubt more business would have resulted during this time had it not been for the hesitancy on the part of both buyers and sellers in making commitments without any definite knowledge as to how soon the banks might reopen, and on what basis withdrawals might be limited.

During the latter part of March, however, the volume of business declined, and the last week in March saw an extremely quiet market. This reduction in the volume of business does not indicate any lack of confidence in the value of wool, but is largely due to the present situation in the goods market. The consumption of wool by manufacturers in many lines is usually at its low ebb during April and May, and in addition to this some lines which should be selling at present are greatly handicapped by the credit situation which now exists in the goods end of the industry, and which is a serious factor.

During the month there has been a disturbing fear for the general market based upon reports of sales made in the West at prices considerably below the established values in Boston, and the trade has felt that it would not require many such sales passed along to the manufacturers to depress the whole market. There has also been considerable concern as to what attitude the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations would assume in the liquidation of the clips of their borrowers. We believe, however, that factors tending to strengthen the price of wool are now at hand.

There is no reason for a lower wool market, as the amount of wool in existence in the country, outside of

the new clip, is not more than what would be considered a reasonable working surplus, which is always necessary in the industry, as it would be impossible for it to function efficiently if the supply of old wool were run down to the last pound each season. By the most reliable estimates available the country will produce a total of wool a little less than it will probably consume, based upon conservative expectations. The surplus, therefore, will not be added to during the year. In addition to this, more and more people have at last come to the correct belief that the ills of the country's economic system will not be cured until the price of raw materials, especially agricultural, are advanced. The manufacturer of wool does not want to see the price any lower, and realizes that we would all be better off if it were higher. The manufacturer's principal concern is a steady market that will not collapse and leave him with canceled orders. The best insurance he has is a strong, steady wool market.

The National Wool Marketing Corporation has been working to this end incessantly, and we believe the recognition throughout the industry of the need for higher and steadier wool prices will go a long way toward accomplishing them.

The position taken by the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations is favorable to orderly marketing, and it would naturally be to their interest as creditors, to see a strong wool market maintained.

The immediate future of the market is in the hands of the grower. He has the country's wool supply on the ranch. This year, through the help of various financial agencies, the grower is in a position where he is not forced to liquidate his wool at low prices, as he has in many cases been obliged to do in the past. He need not sell his wool below market from lack of information, as he has at his command all the facilities of the National Wool Marketing Corporation, either to market his wool or to advise him, or his banker, as to its proper value. If he sells his wool below market value, he is establishing a new market on that level, and it is to be hoped that he will not do so. But in the final analysis the grower will determine the wool market during the next three months.

Partial Payments Under the Unit Marketing Plan

IN the March issue of the National Wool Grower we printed an example to show the detailed workings of the Unit Plan. As reference to this example in the following explanation will make the method of partial payments clearer, it is reprinted here.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Clip Pounds	Price Per Pound	Value	Per Cent	Price Per Pound Sold	Proceeds From Sales	Clips Part-icipation
A	6,600	.14	\$ 924.00	15.99	.13	\$ 858	\$ 963.08
B	7,200	.135	972.00	16.81	.135	972	1,012.47
C	8,500	.145	1,232.50	21.32	.15	1,275	1,284.10
D	12,000	.12	1,440.00	24.91	.13	1,560	1,500.33
E	9,700	.125	1,212.50	20.97	.14	1,358	1,263.02
			\$5,781.00	100.00		\$6,023	\$6,023.00

As soon as sufficient wool has been sold to warrant the establishment of a yardstick of valuation, shown in Column 1, and if the market outlook permits, a partial distribution of the proceeds already received can be made, its extent depending upon the proportion of the wool already sold, and the margin of equity remaining over previous advance payments. Let us assume that at such a time the growers in the group had received at shearing time an average advance of 75 per cent of the values shown in Columns 1 and 2, and that at this time sufficient wool had been sold and market conditions warranted a distribution up to 90 per cent of the yardstick values; each of the growers would receive payments necessary to bring their total receipts up to 90 per cent of the values shown in Column 2.

If for any reason any grower had already received at shearing more than 90 per cent of his value shown in Column 2, he would receive no payment in the 90 per cent distribution.

As liquidation proceeds further, partial payments can be made as conditions permit, until the final liquidation of the unit has been distributed.

In the example the unit actually liquidated at slightly better than 104 per cent of the yardstick valuation shown in Columns 1 and 2, and partial payments would have continued up to that basis.

It should be noted that a grower might be over-advanced at the time the yardstick values were determined and yet receive further payments eventually if his overadvance did not exceed his final participation, shown in Column 6. For instance, suppose in this example that the grower of Clip "C" had for any reason received \$1,250 at shearing or before, his account of participation showing the figures of Columns 1 and 2 would show him as overadvanced. He would not receive any partial payments until such time as these partial payments had exceeded about 101½ per cent of the yardstick valuations of Columns 1 and 2. He would

from then on receive further payments, as his final participation in this case is \$1,284.10, shown in Column 6.

Note: In the example used in this explanation all charges or expenses have been disregarded for the sake of simplicity.

The Unit Marketing Plan

IN the March issue we endeavored to explain in detail the workings of the Unit Marketing Plan. While the principle involved is simple enough, the explanation of the actual detail is not universally understood. We recommend the study of this plan to all progressive growers, however, as we believe it is very much to their advantage to use it.

Some very important features are apparently overlooked by some of the growers already in the Unit Plan. The statements of participation which show the yardstick values of each clip do not represent the accurate final returns to the individual. They represent an estimate of returns based upon the value up to November 1, subject to the final liquidation of all the wool in the Unit Plan, which of course is not a definite figure until all that wool has been sold and delivered. If the balance of this unsold wool is sold on a lower market than that used for the participating values, then the grower would receive a lesser amount than the statement indicates. If, however, the balance of the unsold wool was sold at higher prices, the grower would receive more than his statement indicates. In the case of 1932, the valuations used on November 1 were conservative, and a large part of the wool unsold at that date has since been sold at a slightly better market than the values represented. If such continues to be the case with the wool which is still unsold at this time, there is every reason to believe that these statements of participation will be paid out better than 100 per cent.

It is also important to remember then when the entire Unit Plan wool for any season has been sold, if the expenses involved do not amount to the National's commission rate of \$1.75 per hundred, whatever the saving warrants will be applied to the proceeds of the entire unit, each grower participating in proportion. In other words, the grower in the Unit Plan will be getting his wool marketed at cost.

Packing and Shipping

MUCH has been said regarding the advantages to the wool grower of putting his wool up in the best possible condition, but there is another point in connection with this in which there is room for much improvement, and in which the grower could improve the value of his wool at no material expense.

Comparatively few clips are even and uniform as to the type of sheep from which the fleeces are shown.

A great many clips could be handled to much better advantage where differences within the lot are noted in the packing and shipping. In many cases where different bands of sheep are shorn separately the fleeces could be packed separately, and so marked on the bags and on the shipping papers. This applies not only to bucks, black, lambs and tags, but to any material differences in the type of fleece which the grower knows of, but which the receiver of the wool does not know.

Where a clip does not require grading, it would be a very expensive matter to examine every bag, and in the process of displaying the clip by a reasonably sized cross section of sample bags the chances of error are very much reduced if the grower gives us all the possible information he can by separating these different parts of the clip in packing and so advising us, as the more information we have as to the entire lot the more efficiently we can handle it.

In the case of discount wool such as bucks, black and tags, if these are not separated their existence cannot be concealed, and any buyer must necessarily take this into consideration, and will probably make more allowance for the unknown proportion than would per-

haps be necessary to compensate these discount features, whereas with these items thoroughly removed from the balance of the lot it is possible to figure on a known quantity, which permits of a closer valuation in any transaction.

It also frequently happens that a grower might have 2,000 head of fine woolled sheep of more or less uniform fleeces, and another band of 1,000 of mixed breeding. If these were all packed up together the lot would not sell readily to a manufacturer in the original bags, and it would in all probability be necessary to grade it, thus incurring extra expense on the entire clip, whereas in this case only 1,000 fleeces really needed to be graded. If, however, the grower had packed these mixed fleeces separately from the other and so marked them and marked the shipping paper, the 2,000 fleeces suitable to sell in the original bags could be so handled, and reduce the grading expense to just those fleeces which required to be graded.

There are many other similar instances which could be explained to show wherein it is to the grower's own advantage to assist us in this manner to the best of his ability, and there are no disadvantages in so doing.

Association Works for Orderly Marketing

EARLY in March the National Wool Growers Association made representation to the farm credit agencies in Washington, urging the taking of such steps as would remove wool growers from any necessity of forcing sales of their clips before or at shearing time. The letter reprinted below was addressed to Judge Wilson McCarthy of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and similar letters were sent to the Farm Loan Commissioner and to Henry Morgenthau, Jr., who had just been named as chairman of the Federal Farm Board and as prospective governor of the Farm Credit Administration.

It is hoped that an official statement from Governor Morgenthau may be forthcoming by the time this issue of the Wool Grower is printed.

The position taken by the association and the suggestions made are shown in the letter addressed to Judge McCarthy.

March 15, 1933.

Mr. Wilson McCarthy,
Reconstruction Finance Corp.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCarthy:

A great service could be given wool growers and those who finance them by the taking of action to strengthen the position of the growers in the marketing of the 1933 wool clip.

The purpose of this letter is to suggest that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, or the individual Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation should take such action as is considered proper to assure the growers that they would not be expected or required to make immediate sales of their wool clips after shearing.

It seems that a very bad wool market situation which is likely to develop could be prevented if the growers felt fully assured of receiving the support of those who are financing them. It often has happened that a lot of wool growers, pressed for money at shearing time, have forced their clips into speculative hands at any price obtainable. This has put the speculator in a position to take a merchant's profit while selling materially below a fair price level, which can be measured by the foreign price in connection with the protective tariff. This thing happened last year. It started again in Arizona recently, but was checked by the action of a group of banks which placed their clients' clips in the hands of the National Wool Marketing Corporation.

The situation is likely to return in northern states as wools are taken off. If wool growers can feel that they are free to delay selling, or to consign their clips, there would be much less tendency to make immediate sales at low speculative prices. They would be in a position to accept advances (to be applied on their loans), and to have the final sale of their wools handled by their own cooperative concerns or other agencies, if they desire. This would mean the selling of the 1933 clip to the mills in an orderly fashion and without crowding the market beyond its capacity of consumptive use at any one time. It would largely eliminate speculative fluctuations and make prices more uniform throughout the year, which would be to the advantage of growers, manufacturers, and the public.

The smaller flock owners of the farm states usually do not feel in such a hurry to sell; also, a very large proportion of their clips is now being handled by the National Wool Marketing Corporation.

The present market situation can be briefly portrayed by reference to Boston quotations. On March 11, domestic wools of the grade Territory fine staple were quoted at Boston at 42 cents per scoured pound. The corresponding foreign grade, held in bond, was quoted at 25 cents per scoured pound. With the addition of the tariff, this would mean a value of 59 cents. Some allowances have to be made on account of special preparation given to wools to be exported to the United States. It would be fair to place the proper world value of this grade of wool at 53 cents. On this basis the grease price would be 4 cents per pound higher than it now is.

A similar comparison for wools of the three-eighths-blood combing grade works out about the same way.

I am not suggesting the particular form of action you might take in this connection, for the support of wool growers and of sheep collateral. I realize that many things you might like to do, or statements that you would like to publish would possibly be misunderstood or objected to in other quarters. I believe, though, that, at the least, regional managers might be given to understand that fullest liberty of action should be allowed all borrowers in disposing of their clips, provided advances received in cases of consignment were turned in to apply on the loans. Of course, some form of guarded public announcement would be still more forceful, if such were possible. I do not believe that wool speculators or dealers could or would object to your corporation's position. In fact, many wool dealers prefer to operate on a basis of higher prices so long as they can have an opportunity to obtain a margin that covers the service rendered and some profit. As indicated in the preceding paragraphs, it seems certain that a higher level can be established in fairness to all interests, provided the growers feel sure that they are free to, and will handle their clips with confidence and good business judgment.

We shall be glad to furnish you any facts or data which you may desire at any time, and if something occurs to you that could be done through wool growers' organizations in this connection, we would greatly appreciate receiving your suggestions.

Yours very truly,

F. R. Marshall, Secretary.

Report of Coyote Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS for more effective work in combating predatory animals were contained in the following report recently submitted to the Utah State Woolgrowers Association by a committee consisting of Abe Hansen, Chas. Redd, and H. H. Stevens:

The special predatory animal committee appointed by the Utah State Woolgrowers Association, after personally contacting many of the sheepmen and corresponding with others, and after considerable discussion, beg leave to make the following recommendations:

1. A more vigorous and active campaign on the part of the State Leader and his assistants is desirable.
2. The major portion of their time should be spent actually in the trapper's camp and on the trap line. They should stimulate and entice the trappers. New ideas and methods should be demonstrated. If the practice of living and working with the trappers is followed, the traveling expenses can be held to a minimum.
3. It is the prevailing opinion among a large part of the sheepmen that the accomplishments of the trappers and hunters have not been up to standard the last few years. It is necessary that a survey of these employees be made and some of the dead or nearly dead timber be eliminated and new aggressive programs worked out for the future.
4. It is one of the elements of human nature for people to drift into a mode of choring around

and unconsciously not accomplish any material results in their respective jobs, unless they have to show up at a stated clock time to work under a scheduled hour system that is planned and executed by a supervisor. As this matter is of the utmost importance, a stipulated and well defined rule should be established for a minimum day's work, exclusive of camp chores.

5. Trappers should be required to spend a large per cent of their time on the range with a camp outfit. The practice of living in town and trapping therefrom is, as a rule, absurd.

6. Trappers should be required to work as hard and put in as many hours as do cattlemen and sheepmen and ranchers among whom they work. The dilatory practice of working five or six hours a day should be discontinued.

7. Six days per week should be demanded. The practice of taking Saturday to go home and Monday to return to camp and leaving but four days per week for work should not be tolerated.

8. Trappers should be advised that they should be effective producers if they are to be continued on the pay roll. Nothing short of an intelligent, industrious and continuous activity should be tolerated.

9. Under present financial conditions and consequent lack of funds, it seems advisable to give the trappers a two or three months' layoff during that time of the year when results obtained are small. This program should be entirely practical during this period of depression when unemployment is prevalent and wage scales very low. Under this policy the trappers engaged nine months of the year would probably make more money than men engaged in comparative work.

10. During that time of the year when a large catch can be made, the force should be as large as the funds available will permit. We should view this problem with the idea of obtaining the highest possible kill with the money at hand. Until the wheels of fortune turn definitely upward, the men engaged in this work are really quite fortunate.

11. It is our opinion that poisoning, in certain seasons and if properly done, is the cheapest and most effective method of predatory animal destruction. A few men can cover a large area and do effective work.

12. The work should start about October on the higher ranges. Great care should be taken in selecting places for stations. Many of the early-put-out baits have been known to spoil when cool shady places have not been selected. This is a waste of time and material.

13. We want to again repeat that the secret of an aggressive and effective field force depends almost entirely upon the leader and his assistants. Active and continuous personal contacts will achieve results.

Crude Oil as a Branding Fluid

INQUIRIES have been received about the merits of crude oil as a branding fluid. Apparently this practice does not fall into the category of wise economy.

Those attending the annual convention of the National Wool Growers Association at Portland last December will recall the samples of scoured wool on display in the convention hall that showed just what crude oil could do to the product. Eastern dealers report that it is "extremely damaging" and that even

"good old barn paint that will harden is much preferable."

One wool merchant, writing the Wool Grower in this connection recently, said:

We sold a good size clip a few weeks ago and in a few days the manufacturer brought back a sample of the scoured wool. The oil, crude in this case, would not wash out in the scouring liquor and when the wool went through the squeeze rolls, it smudged about the whole collection of wool.

Hay Prices Again Cut at Ogden and Salt Lake Yards

EFFECTIVE April 1 a rate of \$24.00 a ton was placed on alfalfa or bright meadow hay, fed out, by the management of the Salt Lake Union Stock Yards at North Salt Lake, Utah. This is a reduction of \$2.00 a ton and makes the third cut during the past year.

The new price set up by the Ogden Union Stock Yards commencing April 1, is \$1.20 per hundred for the best grade of alfalfa, timothy and wild hay, including cost of feeding. Reductions in alfalfa hay at Ogden during the past year total \$6.00 a ton.

Land Leases Reduced in Montana

A 50 PER CENT reduction in rates for leasing state grazing lands was effected in Montana this year by action of the state legislature.

Under a previous law, passed in 1927, the rates were \$70 to \$100 for Class 1 lands; \$60 for Class 2; \$50 for Class 3, and \$40 for Class 4. The new law, effective this year, cuts these rates in two.

Proceedings have been instituted in the Supreme Court to show that the law is unconstitutional because the lease rates must represent the true market value of the land, but full confidence is felt by stockmen that the new fees can be shown to be correct.

The Lamb Market Situation in March

Chicago

THE market was all confusion at the first of March because of the bank situation. Within a few days things were straightened around and all uncertainty as to packer payment for purchases removed. For a time supplies seemed likely to be sharply limited and an advance of 50 to 75 cents was registered on lambs.

During the moratorium fat lambs advanced sharply to the highest level since January, the top at Chicago going to \$6.40, but this was due to two days of abnormally light receipts, shippers heeding admonition to load sparingly until the capacity of the market had been tested. A brief two-day period ended tension and although prices reacted, a firm undertone developed. On a scramble to fill urgent needs, any kind of a lamb got action on March 6 and 7, weight evading the handicap to which it had previously been subjected. The \$6.40 top subsided to \$5.75 before the end of the week and practically all that had been put on during the flurry was wiped out.

Naturally wholesale and retail trade fluctuated widely. Dressed lambs jumped \$3.50 to \$4 per hundred, but as consumers balked the froth soon disappeared and within a few days both wholesale and retail prices were back to the previous level. Packers made no effort to boost prices to out-of-line levels, but in some instances jobbers adopted that policy with unsatisfactory results to themselves.

The \$6 quotation on choice lambs was in effect during the major part of March. Apart from the flurry of moratorium week when \$6.40 was paid, it was a \$5.50@5.85 market on the bulk of lambs at Chicago all through the month. During the week ending March 11 a spread of \$5.25@6 took the bulk; the follow-

ing week found the bulk of the crop selling in a range of \$5@5.75, with a \$6 top. The week ending March 25 developed a somewhat higher trade with a \$6.25 top and a \$5.40@6 bulk, and during the final week, although the \$6 quotation was occasionally erased, it persisted in returning. Tops under present conditions are, however, deceptive, as an outside price usually means a picked load to a shipper or city butcher. Common and half-fat lambs have sold well at \$4@4.75, considering what they were.

Packer resistance to advances was strenuous and consistent to the extent of frequently delaying trades until the matinee session. On some of these belated markets salesmen were able to put on 25 cents per hundred; but the tide did not always flow in the same direction. From day to day it was a see-saw market, a 25-cent fluctuation either way from day to day being the rule. Toward the close of March \$5.50@5.85 represented the bulk of shipper and packer purchases.

Of course a considerable percentage of lambs has had to sell below \$5.50. In the case of weight, fluctuation has been more pronounced than with heavy lambs. Fortunately the proportion weighing upwards of 98 pounds has been small, extreme weights selling down to \$5. At the low time packers did considerable business on a \$5@5.35 basis. Having been a choppy trade, these divergencies were logical. At all times city butchers have taken the cream of the crop. Had eastern shipping demand been broader, a higher level of prices would have been possible. Narrow spreads have been, and will be the rule until the crop of winter-fed lambs is in, tail ends show up, and springers acquire a more prominent place. The market position of the overweight lamb is uncertain, but no distinction has been made between 90 and 95-pound weights. Shorn lambs are scarce this season,

but are discounted only about 25 cents per hundred, selling at \$5.40@5.50, owing to low wool values.

Spring lambs have cut no figure in the trade so far. On the dressed market a few head have been quoted at \$15@17 per hundred. No springers have reached Chicago, but Kansas City has had a sprinkling of Texas springers, Fort Worth reporting the advance guard of that movement. From all that can be learned the California crop has been retarded by adverse physical conditions, but Arizona will load a crop of good lambs on schedule time. Tennessee has a full crop and will be heard from in late April, so that in a few weeks the market will pass from a fed to a grass basis. Advices from other lambing grounds are that there will be enough to go around.

A \$5.50@6 lamb market may not represent substantial profit to growers, but in the light of comparison with the other species, lamb trade needs no apologist. Few fat cattle are now selling above \$5.75, heavy long-fed bullocks good enough for any trade selling at \$4.75@5.25; while killers are getting thousands of light steers at \$4@4.50. Average cost of hog droves has been around \$4 per hundred, so that consumers have access to an abundant supply of cheap meats, not to speak of poultry and eggs.

With April behind, the market situation may show improvement as spring lamb is a popular addition to the public diet and is immune to the criticism of fed lambs, excessive weight and fat. If the California movement is delayed, Colorado and Nebraska will be given an opportunity to clean up. What Texas has concealed in its capacious sleeve can only be ascertained as the movement from that quarter develops, but popular assumption is that there will be enough. Future lamb prices depend on what happens in the dressed market, a trade that is decidedly healthier than in the case of other

meats. Lamb feeding has been a "best bet" with corn belt feeders during the past winter, which should assure a broad demand for the next crop of feeding stock.

J. E. Poole.

Kansas City

DOUBTLESS March prices would have shown a substantial advance had not banking facilities been interrupted for a period for a complete recheck. Producers were much disappointed in the failure of the market to advance, yet when it is considered under what handicap the buying side had to operate market performance was highly creditable.

February closed with best lambs selling at \$5.25 and March closed at \$5.40. The extreme top of \$5.75 was paid March 7, and on March 9, 10, 11, and 13, the low point of \$5.15 was recorded. In the next six days the market rallied to \$5.65, held there for a time, fell back to \$5.25 and closed firm at \$5.40.

Practically the entire supply of March lambs came from feed lots. The exception was spring lambs from Kansas and Missouri farms and the Panhandle of Texas. They sold at \$6.50 to \$7.00, mostly \$7.00, with prevailing weights 70 to 80 pounds.

They represent the earliest lambs, in fact they are a midwinter instead of a spring lamb as the trade calls them to distinguish them from old crop lambs. The vanguard of the Arizona lamb crop was on its way to Kansas City the last week in March but none arrived in a selling position to get in on the month's business.

April brings a very favorable outlook for higher prices. Business conditions are more settled than they were a month ago. Colorado and Nebraska feed lots have 20 per cent fewer lambs on feed than April 1, 1932, the spring lamb crop is estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture as 8 per cent short of a year ago, and the California lamb movement will not start until later than last year as feed crops got off to a late start. Thus we have 21

per cent fewer fed lambs and not as many early spring lambs as last year to meet requirements for the next six weeks.

March receipts were 170,482, compared with 199,924 in the same month last year and the smallest for March since 1929. The March record was established in 1930 with 215,108. For the three months this year receipts were 453,127, or 99,334 less than in the same period of 1932.

C. M. Pipkin.

St. Joseph

RECEIPTS for the month of March were 115,247 compared with 109,065 for February and 142,978 for March a year ago. The month's total was the smallest for March since 1924, when 108,157 were received. Of the month's total, Colorado was the most liberal contributor with 50,033, and 37,000 of these were from the Arkansas Valley. Nebraska feed lots of the Upper and Lower Platte Valley furnished 22,267 and New Mexico and Texas 12,399. Only a few loads came from Montana and Wyoming.

The lamb market during the month was very uneven from day to day, but price fluctuations were not great. Compared with a month ago prices are around 10 cents higher. The top ranged from \$5.20@5.60, with the close at \$5.35 on 87@95-pound averages, and others down to \$5.00, including 98@102-pound weights at \$5.10@5.15. Early in the last week of the month 112-pounders sold at \$4.75 and 121-pounders at \$4.50. Texas and New Mexico lambs sold up to the top on numerous occasions during the month. Clipped lambs sold up to \$5.40 at the high time and at \$5.10 on the close. A few small lots of spring lambs sold \$6.50@6.75 the last half of the month.

Feeders were scarce, a few loads of Southwesterns selling at \$4.50@4.75. Aged sheep close around 25 cents higher, best ewes selling on the close at \$2.75, yearlings \$4.50@4.75, and old wethers \$3.00@4.00.

H. H. Madden.

Denver

SHEEP prices fluctuated considerably during the month of March but closed the month about steady with the opening. Receipts, although liberal during the 30-day period, were not as heavy as the 1932 March supply, totaling 223,612 head this year, compared to 257,098 head last year.

Best fat lambs were selling early in March at a top of \$5.40. About the middle of the month \$5.75 was being paid for top grades but, under liberal supplies, prices had dropped back to around \$5.40 at the close of the month.

The first spring lambs of the season arrived during the month and best handyweight kinds sold up to a top of \$7. Ewes that were selling around \$1.50 to \$2.50 early in March were bringing about the same prices at the close.

While the supply of lambs in feed lots tributary to this market is quite liberal, the demand is good and market interests believe that with a proper distribution of supplies over the remaining weeks of the marketing season, prices can be held on a fairly satisfactory level.

W. N. Fulton.

Omaha

VIEWED broadly, the March trade in sheep and lambs was rather a quiet affair. Prices held within comparatively narrow limits except for a spurt at the start of the banking holiday, and wound up just a little better for the month. Final sales were anywhere from strong to 25 cents higher than at the close of the previous month.

Considering the fact that receipts of approximately 189,000 were 43,000 short of March, 1932, and the lightest for any corresponding period in 11 years, the market might have been expected to give a better account of itself than it did. Short supplies, however, were the only favorable factor in the picture. Demand was mild at best, although

fairly even from day to day, and shipping orders fell considerably below normal volume for this season.

March opened with bulk of the fed westerns selling for slaughter at \$5.00@5.25 but the spread soon moved up to a \$5.50@5.60 basis. In this early March trade the month's extreme top of \$5.75 was paid. The \$5.50@5.60 level was again touched by the bulk around midmonth, but

a spread of \$5.25@5.50 caught most of the March business. By the close, the general run was selling at \$5.25@5.35, with a final top of \$5.40.

The general trend of prices followed closely those paid for fat lambs, closing around 25 cents above the end of February. Most of the time shearing lambs sold about as well as fats, and at times outsold killing stuff.

After opening at \$5.00@5.20, the market moved up to a \$5.25@5.40 basis, with a top of \$5.55 for the month. As a rule, those at the high end of the day's sales either carried a liberal fat end or consisted of lambs that lacked quite enough finish for slaughter and could be returned to market shortly after shearing.

Kirby Kittoe.

With the Women's Auxiliaries

Let's be Better Buyers

THE Director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce is quoted as saying, "Never were the needs of the consumer more intimately the objectives of both manufacturer and merchant. To know what the consumer wants in quality, service and price and to supply it constitute the basis for successful business."

Now first and foremost, Auxiliary members, as housewives and homemakers, if we would be successful, we too must know what we want as to quality, service and price. And in an organization such as ours it is not only our privilege, but it is our duty to familiarize ourselves with "sane saving, sane spending and sane sharing," and to sponsor such plans in our different communities.

But before we can teach others, we must ourselves first learn to be "better buyers." Can we tell how much a piece of silk has been weighted or whether the "sizing" in a cotton print will wash right out? Is it possible to estimate the lasting quality of rayon? And when we ask our winter coat, "Have you any wool?" can we trust its claim to have "three bags full." We are very apt to have a feeling of helplessness that surely would have astounded our grandmothers. This feeling of helplessness is mighty hard to bear at this time when we are trying so hard to spend money wisely. This is the time when women should feel their responsibilities. For women buy all

but a small percentage of the fabrics on the market. Since time began textiles have been our field and we (especially wool growers wives) should be able to claim authority over them by having reliable information on materials worth buying.

Do we know how many operations are required to transform raw silk into the finished fabric—raw cotton into the glossy prints we use? Do we know that this country is the largest producer and the largest consumer of cotton and cotton cloth? Do we know that Russia, Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain and Ireland grow the bulk of the world's flax, that flax is grown in this country but for seed mostly and not for fiber?

And as for wool, our own product—do we know that statistics of the United States Department of Agriculture list this country second from the top in its production of wool and first in the production of woollen goods? And that these are worsted or woollen stuffs according to their process of manufacture?

From prehistoric times until the beginning of the world war these four fabrics, silk, cotton, linen and wool, clothed the human race. Then rayon came into being—and marks a new era in textile history, as it is the first fiber to be made by man. It was originally promoted as artificial silk. But do we know that the United States produces and uses more rayon than any other country?

An American industrialist has brought forth a production made

from the milk of the rubber tree, which when chemically and mechanically treated becomes an elastic yarn.

Then there are materials woven of angora rabbit fur, mohair, also materials woven of hemp and jute for heavy work.

We who clothe the family can well be grateful to all the diverse groups at work upon improving the textile industry. Foremost among them is the United States government. It is an interesting study to learn the role Uncle Sam plays in the yard of goods or the dress we buy.

I wonder do we know just why materials shrink at the laundry and the dry-cleaners? Why so called fast colors run or fade? Do we always ask according to its predestined use, whether the fabric will wash in soap suds, hot or cold water, or if it must be dry-cleaned? Or whether a tint will fade in direct sun or salt air?

Do we know when a so-called woollen fabric has been woven with cotton or is of poor quality reworked wool?

So, as for you and me Mrs. Buyer, if we would be really careful buyers we have much to learn. And when we buy—buy not impulsively or slavishly—but wisely. We must get all the information we can and support every progressive measure initiated by industry and trade. Thus perhaps we will find an inspiring opportunity to help restore the real soundness of business.

Grace I. Stewart, President,
National Auxiliary.


OGDEN REDUCES PRICE OF HAY

For the third consecutive time in less than one year Ogden has reduced the price of hay to its shippers \$2.00 per ton, making a total reduction of \$6.00 per ton.

— o o —

Ogden's commission charges were reduced approximately \$3.00 per car March 1st. Ogden's yardage charges are 10 to 30 per cent lower than at other markets.

IT COSTS LESS TO SELL AT OGDEN

OGDEN

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KENNETH C. IKELER, General Manager

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North Portland, Oregon

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Around the Range Country

(Continued from page 13)

Woodland

Feed has been short and the weather cold. Yesterday (March 29), we had an inch of rain which will help very much. But spring feed will not be very good unless more rains fall.

Milk lambs are starting to market slowly; the first brought 7½ cents, then 7 cents, and now 6 cents at shipping point. On account of so little rain and short feed, there will be a great many fair lambs and only a small per cent of real fat ones. The last rain of about an inch will help the later lambs going to market, as the feed will be much better. The total number of lambs is below that of last year, as the ewes lambing were about 15 per cent short and losses at lambing time were very heavy in some cases. There was death loss of from 10 to 15 per cent in range ewes of this section.

On account of the cold weather very little shearing has been done yet; however, I have sheared part of my sheep already. For machine shearers the rate is 10 cents with board and the blade men get 8 cents with board. I do not know of any advances being made on consignments of 1933 wools, but some sales have been made at 9 to 10½ cents for 12-months' wools.

Lack of funds and the reduction in number of trappers employed have been reflected this year in the increase of coyotes.

While conditions here are about the same as in other states, I feel that the changes that have taken place at Washington the last few weeks will help the sheep business as well as other lines in the next few months.

F. N. Bullard.

Nevada

Temperatures were uniform and steady as a rule, averaging near the normal for the month, while precipitation was light for the month as a whole, though local storms in the

latter half of the month were turned out on the range, as forage is starting a little. Lambing is beginning under favorable circumstances; and a little shearing has begun in the south. Livestock generally are in fairly good shape and doing well, the need for feeding having lessened appreciably of late.

McGill

Weather and feed conditions have been favorable during March and the prospects for feed on the spring range are better than last year. The winter has been a hard one on sheep; death losses have been about 25 per cent.

No lambing has taken place yet, but we have about the same number of ewes to lamb.

There has been no activity at all in wool. No sales prices have been quoted and no advances given.

Coyotes have decreased in number in this locality.

Sam Angelos.

Utah

The snow layer that persisted so long, disappeared rapidly during the early weeks of March, but generally without runoff, the soils absorbing all the moisture. Temperatures have continued about seasonal, with a few snow and rainstorms, but totaling less than the usual amount for this month. Livestock have consequently held up in fairly good shape, though there is very little foraging on spring grass or browse as yet. In most sections reports indicate that cattle and sheep have wintered fairly well.

Enterprise

It has been dry here during March and the feed is none too good. If we don't have some storms, the spring range will not be up to much.

We have about 5 to 10 per cent more ewes to lamb this year than last. Winter losses were smaller than usual.

We have been having a great deal more trouble with coyotes. I think that we should try and do away with state and federal trappers, as

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they are apparently of the opinion that if they kill off all the predatory animals they will be out of a job. We should have a bounty on all the time, for it is a waste of money to have it on part of the time. Such a policy is the same as raising sheep and then paying some one to come in and kill them off, and then raise some more and do the same all over again. A bounty will give all a chance to make a dollar, and not pay just a few to sit around and do nothing but draw a salary.

J. C. Bosshardt.

Colorado

Light snows and rains benefited ranges appreciably, especially over the eastern portions, where conditions had become more or less seriously dry. However, moisture is still needed badly for crops and ranges, especially over the southeastern portion. Livestock are mostly in good condition in western counties, but in fair condition in eastern sections, a small number of losses being reported in the southeastern portion. Ranges and pastures are showing green in the Arkansas Valley, and plowing is advancing, in the lower western valleys.

Slater

We have had heavy, wet snows during March. There was more precipitation than usual, and it was needed in most localities. Prospects for spring range feed are good at this time (March 24), as there was little frost in the ground and the March storms will melt into the ground.

The number of ewes to be lambled will be about the same as in 1932; for those gone, others have come. Winter losses were about 5 per cent.

State leases for grazing land have been cut about 25 per cent, but privately owned land leases will be about the same as last year, perhaps a little less.

No wool has been sold yet, but a few growers have contracted clean ranch wool at 11 cents.

Shearing prices have not been set yet in this district. There is little

machine shearing done here, and while nothing definite has been decided upon for the blade men, the talk is 6 cents and board.

Coyotes are as troublesome as they have been for the past ten years. A hundred and twenty-five pelts have been shipped from this neighborhood, but the coyotes are still numerous. They are nomads and follow the sheep. This winter the snow has drifted more, thus exposing more ground, and the coyotes didn't go to the lower country in as great numbers as usual.

Cogdill and McIntosh.

New Mexico

Mostly mild dry weather prevailed, the season being satisfactorily advanced where moisture was ample. The central and southern counties are especially dry, though livestock in these areas have held up in fairly good shape because of the lack of storms, and there being enough forage. Cattle are improving with new pasturage in the southwest, aided by a little new moisture. The crop season is late in places, though the snow layer has been gone some time. Heavy cattle feeding continued in the north.

San Antonio

We have been having very dry weather. Feed conditions are fair (March 29), but the grass is a little slow. However, the prospects for feed and abundant water on the spring range are good.

Coyotes were more troublesome this year than last.

Winter death losses in range ewes were about two per cent.

Serafin Gomez.

Hope

March weather has been fine and there is plenty of feed on the range (March 25).

We are contracting shearing at 6 cents, which price includes shearing, tying, and sacking the wool.

Sales of wool are being made at $8\frac{3}{4}$ to 9 cents, while advances on consigned wools have been offered at 6 cents.

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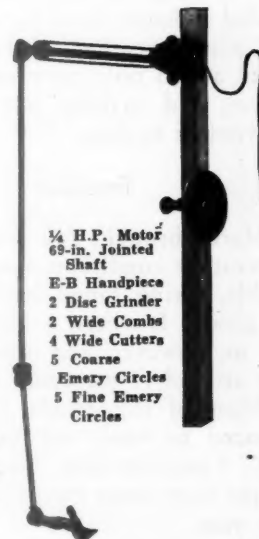
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I think we had about 10 per cent more ewes to lamb this year; our lamb yield is about the same as last year, 50 per cent.

The winter death loss averaged 5 per cent.

Lee P. Glasscock.

Arizona

Pleasant days with moderate temperatures were reported, but the nights were mostly cool and frosty at the higher elevations. Very little rain fell, and none that did occur was of lasting benefit because so light. Much of the highest country is still under snow, as usual at this date. Bright Angel Ranger Station reporting 19 inches on the ground. Spring range growth has been retarded at lower levels by cool nights and windy weather. Generally livestock are in only poor or fair condition, and making but slow improvement to date.

Fredonia

March brought fair weather, and if weather conditions continue favorable, spring range feed will soon be good. It's been a heavy winter for us, however, and our death loss was around 15 per cent.

None of the bands have commenced to lamb out yet (March 22). I estimate that there are about 20 per cent fewer ewes to lamb than last year.

Machine shearers are getting 7 cents a head with board, 8 cents where they board themselves. Eight cents is also paid blade men.

I haven't heard of any sales of wool yet, but understand that 40 cents per head is the advance being made on consigned wools.

Coyotes seem to be increasing and each year there is a heavy loss from them. We do not receive much benefit from the government trappers.

Frank S. Brown.

Western Texas

Warm weather prevailed, forcing the growth of grasses where moisture is sufficient. Rains have been

light to moderate, only, and covered principally central and southern portions of the district, the panhandle counties being dry. Range and livestock conditions are good to excellent over central and southern Texas, where rainfall has been ample, and fairly good elsewhere as a rule, though only fair over northern counties.

Red Rock Valley (Montana) Association Adopts Wage Scale

ADOPTION of a maximum wage of \$30 for all labor connected with the livestock industry was one of the principal acts of the Red Rock Valley Livestock Association when it met at Dell, Montana, on March 25. For general shearing a rate of 6 cents with board was agreed upon and two cents more for shearing all bucks, except the fine wool types, for which 10 cents will be paid.

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace was also asked, by resolution, to reconsider his decision to require the payment of grazing fees for the first half of 1933. "The stockmen are unable to pay these excessive grazing fees," the resolution stated, "and urge that some provision be adopted for the deferment of the first half payment, a complete cancellation of the second half, and that a new schedule be worked out in the meantime for some permanent adjustment. Stockmen are not in a position to await the results of a detailed and prolonged investigation; it is imperative that we have some relief prior to the time for the livestock to go on the forest range."

The attendance at the meeting was exceptional and combined with a spirit of cooperation showed that out of the depression there has come to many of us the knowledge that we cannot stand alone to fight our common battles.

S. E. Whitworth, Secretary.

Pacific Wool Directors Plan for 1933 Season

PLANs for handling the 1933 clip were discussed at a meeting of the board of directors of the Pacific Wool Growers in Portland held the last three days of the week ending April 1st. Wool men of five western states were represented.

Mr. R. A. Ward, general manager, predicted, in his annual report, that the 1933 clip produced in the United States would be from 30 to 50 million pounds shorter than last year and that the trend in sheep numbers during the next few years would be downward. The wool market is now quiet and inactive but the statistical position of wool is entirely sound. Stocks of wool on hand are not large. Country buying of the new clip has just started in a few sections and prices have not yet been definitely established.

Officers reelected to serve for the coming year are E. A. McCornack, Eugene, president; J. T. Alexander, Chehalis, Washington, and R. A. Ward, Portland, vice presidents; C. E. Grelle, secretary. The Executive Committee consists of Mr. McCornack, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Grelle, Fred W. Falconer of Pendleton, Oregon, and Dr. Edwin Bunnell, Willows, California.

The two newly elected members of the board attending the meeting were Carlyle Eubank of Ogden, Utah, who controls the marketing of the wool from 9,000 sheep operated by two companies on the Aleutian Islands, Alaska, and Fred W. Falconer of Pendleton, large eastern Oregon operator. Reelected board members include Mr. McCornack, Mr. Alexander, Dr. Bunnell, J. G. Barratt, Heppner, Oregon; Jos. Keerins, Izee, Oregon; J. O. Rhoades, Riggins, Idaho; F. A. Phillips, Keating, Oregon; L. A. Robertson, Garberville, California; G. A. Sandner, Scio, Oregon; J. O. Sorenson, Ellensburg, Washington; Carl Whitmore, Joseph, Oregon, and J. D. Yeager, Wellington, Nevada.

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